THE

LITERARY MAGAZINE;

OR,

Monthly Epitome of British Literature.

No. 14.] FEBRUARY. [1806.

MUSEUM OF THE ARTS.

WHILST his countrymen seemed only desirous of painting their country, and for their neighbours alone, RUBENS, on whom genius bestowed her choicest gifts, despising the routine of his predecessors, opened himself a new career,—he observed all that had hitherto been done, to accomplish what had not previously been conceived. The beauty of the antique had been carried to the highest imaginable pitch by Raffaëlle and his school, whose precision and correctness of design almost surpassed the possibility of superior excellence; Rubens therefore was not desirous of entering the lists with such an adversary. The Venetian school excelled all others in richness of colouring; but his original mind pointed out to him a path of his own; he invented new forms and modes of colouring, unthought of by his predecessors; they had already appropriated the historic and poetic of painting to themselves, but Rubens enriched it with romance: there was something still wanting to the movement to the action of figures, and he seized it—he forced and went beyond every thing; he likewise sought out new contours that he might make them grand. He outstripped the excellent in search of something better, and often proved that the one is an enemy to the other. He placed every thing in opposition and contrast; his women are neither so slender nor so delicate as the Greeks, nor are their countenances so animated as the Italians—he made them fresh coloured, ruddy, and round, but graceful, enlivened with the tints of health and the play of the senses; the rounded contours of their forms became the abode of new graces, their bosoms the seat of other charms than those of Venus; they inspire less interest and adoration, but greater desire, and give origin to love of a form much less divine, though more on a level with human nature;—we think more highly of the others after having seen them, we admire these the more we behold them. Rubens was likewise the author of new forms for the male figure; he changed the character of the head, by giving more energy to its muscles and outlines. An Apollo and an Adonis would possess something of the force of a Hercules; but the brilliance of poetry and colouring which animates all his works annihilates their faults, and the eye, in beholding the whole, disdains to enter into details. His school produced a complete change in the manner of his countrymen; Vandyke attempted the outline of the Italians; and Champagne was little short of them, either in composition or in colouring. The Flemings ventured from home, and with them took little of their ancient style, but the beauty of its colouring; and when, abandoning the grand subjects of history, they descended into

private life, they carried with them a greater choice of personage, together with elegance of form, borrowed from the Italian schools; still retaining, however, the beautiful colouring of their own: such are the works of Gerard Dow, Mieris, Vanderwerf, and Schalken, the delicacy of whose subjects reminds us of a landscape viewed through the diminishing end of a prospect glass, whilst those of Rubens seem to have been viewed at the opposite one: they were not destitute of the beauties of sentiment, but their authors chose them from common life. Poussin employed himself on the poetic subjects of his art, but the small pieces of the Flemings are dramas. The Hydropic of Gerard Dow, the Family of Ostade, the Grocer's-shop of Mieris, and the Drunken King of Jordaens, are common scenes, entirely taken from amongst their fellow citizens.

These improvements were not confined to scenes of active life alone; as landscape felt their benign influence, and rose to a far greater pitch of excellence; Berghem essayed bolder subjects than a cow in a meadow, heretofore the sole subjects of his predecessors in landscape; his pupil Glauber, says Polidor, painted landscapes with all the beauty of Poussin and of Titian; so that in the commencement of the last century, the Flemish school retained little or nothing of its ancient style, except an admirable finish in their easel paintings, which has scarcely been outrivalled at any period or in any country.

From this school arose Rembrandt, a school of himself, because his manner of painting, if not inimitable, has at least never been excelled. We can easily comprehend the modes, whether good or bad, employed by their artists in most paintings; but those of Rembrandt leave us in the dark respecting his own, more particularly as he is without a model, or an imitator; we cannot say that nature was his guide, for it becomes necessary in order to produce the effect of his manner, to invent a particular light, and to render it in some degree factitious, otherwise the light and shade of his paintings is unattainable. One can readily suppose that this beautiful style must have been the result of study happily preconceived, and of observation well digested; to illustrate it we will suppose the full light of day to fall on a plane surface; such for instance, as the canvas of a painting; every part will be equally illuminated; in like manner, the lights, the shades, and the back ground, are all equally illuminated by the local light, and are equally reflected to the eye, as coming from an equal distance; whereas in nature it is far otherwise: the darkened parts receive no direct light, and the distant ones are reflected through a medium more or less lengthened,—through a volume of air which is greater or less in proportion to that distance. All the efforts of art, however, can only avail to destroy this difference in a greater or less degree, they can never entirely efface it, because a direct light falls on all the shades equally with the lights, on the fore grounds equally with the back-grounds, all being at the same distance from the eye. The intermixture, the blending of the colours, imitates the different appearances of the various objects with tolerable precision, but there must always be a local colour, such as will obtain, if we cut out from a picture a shaded part or a piece of the back-ground; it will in both cases be nothing more than a piece of coloured canvas, and equally illuminated at a given distance: it is by opposition of colours alone that the magic of painting is produced.

It was probably by meditating on this principle, that Rembrandt was led to the conclusion, that as paint-

ing cannot produce lights luminous as nature, we can only approach her by opposing artificial lights to artificial shades, and of a stronger kind than those to be found in nature. He composed his pictures, then, by making his shades of all kinds of a darker cast than they really are in nature, reserved the full effect of his brilliant colours for a single point, which also issued singly from amidst the surrounding shades; by this means he produced effects almost magical, and he has still farther heightened the effect by the manner in which he disposes his colouring materials. Instead of employing them by *super-position*, he lays them on by *juxta-position;* he places his raw tints by the side of each other, and trusts to distance for their proper harmonisation on the eye of the spectator. Were his manner more easy of imitation, it would probably have produced a sect, a school in painting; but from this difficulty, or from the difficulty of finding a model in truth or in nature, it perished with him. The principal of his colouring was just; but it was outraged by himself in all its consequences; and even his scholars, Gerard Dow for instance, were not his imitators, as they quitted his manner, which could only suit himself as its inventor.

In later times, the Flemish school, after partaking, in different degrees, of the character of all others, has at length ceased to have one of its own; and the same may likewise be said of those of Italy and of most other countries. This seems to have arisen from the fashion of travelling, lately become so common amongst artists, which has led them to adopt the manner of all the painters whose works they have studied; and this mixture of styles has neutralised, so to speak, all their characters, by uniting them by shades almost imperceptible. The last century may be said, for this very reason, to have begun the decline of the art, so that painting has almost become mere mechanism, in which has been introduced a series of *manners of working*, of processes by agreement, of modes of design admitted, and usually of certain adopted rules, the which if not received and acted on nothing could be produced, that artists would call good;—they have withdrawn themselves far from the beauties of the antique, and have substituted in their stead new beauties subject to the mode; and few indeed are the artists who have lately had the courage to shake off these trammels, and to launch in the ocean of mind, of genius, of originality. Such is the weakness of human intellect, that an original mind appears almost to be a work of labor; the production of an age, of a century.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MARY DE MEDICIS.

It has rarely fallen to the lot of an artist to be employed on a succession of subjects so suitable to his talents as the series constituting the history of Henry IV. was to Rubens, because, when once the allegorical idea was selected, the subjects for completing and filling it up all offered themselves, as it were, to the pencil. The strongly pronounced character of the head requisite for the hero was quite in the style we usually see him adopt in all his works; and the person of Mary de Medicis was entirely Flemish, and exactly such as he would have painted a female figure had he been left to his fancy. In this composition we behold *Equity*, under the character of the queen, holding a balance; a thought both ingenious and fine. Near her is *Love*, who delicately applies his hand to raise the sinking scale, thus gently endeavouring to restore the lost equilibrium. The figure of the queen is grand, and embellished; it is a divinity in human form, whose drapery, though theatric, still retains sufficient of the historic; her atti-

tude is noble, her appearance majestic; she commands, she reigns, she rules.

In this as in all allegorical subjects, it becomes necessary to ascertain the painter's intention; and in this picture we behold an assemblage of the sciences represented by Minerva, though this goddess again appears in the foreground, on the left of the regent, as one of his counsellors: the figure of Time, and this last Minerva are a little too short. On the right hand we behold the Graces distributing rewards to the genii of the arts; the two female figures are something more airy than Rubens usual y presents us, and the design of the genii is elegant. *Ignorance* and *Slander* are placed at the bottom of the whole, together with Envy, who strives to seize the writings and other productions of the arts; his pitiful, malignant and rapacious attitude, and his livid countenance are characterised with much freedom and spirit. The Fames sounding trumpets are placed above, and occupy the remaining space of this admirably grouped composition, though on the whole it may be said to be a little overcharged.

This picture has been preferred to any other in the gallery of the Luxembourg; its composition is well ordered, without void or confusion. From it we discern that Rubens well studied his designs and groupes, more especially if he proposed to express them by descriptive poetry, which permits us to call every character by its name; picturesque composition however requires something more, as every personage ought to be sufficiently characterised to enable the spectator to ascertain who he is, without the necessity of questioning the artist,—their attributes ought to distinguish them at once, without the most distant necessity for a name. The thought of the genius of Love sustaining the balance of government is admirable; it enchants us by the sentiment, by the feeling it conveys to our hearts. These tracts only can belong to the scholar and the artist, the former being able, when the latter has fixed on an idea, to select an expression the most proper to illustrate it,—a union of talents rarely to be found except in the works of Poussin, and now and then in those of Le Sœur. Raffaëlle had a genius which passes for thought, and which compels admiration; Rubens with a brilliant fancy has not always good taste; because his active imagination, aided by the rapidity of his execution, was the very focus, the germ of his talent, all of which, however, is far short of genius.

ANALYSES OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

V. MEMOIRS OF RICHARD CUMBERLAND, *written by himself. Containing an Account of his Life and Writings, interspersed with Anecdotes and Characters of several of the most distinguished Persons of his time, with whom he had Intercourse and Connection.* 4*to. pp.* 533. 2*l.* 2*s. boards*, 1806. Lackington and Co.

WE shall in this as in several of our late accounts of biographical performances, proceed with as little delay as possible to lay a few extracts before our readers, which in the present instance will fully enable them to form a tolerably accurate opinion of the work. We shall only premise, that though it is the life of a writer of plays, it happily steers clear of actors, and contains none of those scandalous anecdotes so plentifully interspersed in several biographical works lately offered to the public, as lives of

players. The author has long been a great favourite with the public, and his own life, written by himself, must naturally be received with interest, and perused with avidity. Mr. Cumberland was a lineal descendant by the father's side from the celebrated Bishop of Peterborough, author of a well known work *De Legibus Naturæ*, written to confute the impious and silly tenets of Hobbes. This respectable prelate was his great grandfather. His maternal grandfather was Doctor Richard Bentley, well known as a critic and a profound scholar. His father was Bishop of Clonfert, and afterwards of Kilmore in Ireland; and the uniform affection, reverence, and love, manifested towards him by the author wherever he mentions his name, are highly honourable to his feelings. —After giving a brief account of his progenitors he proceeds with a history of his early life and studies; which generally speaking is without interest; he at length commences his literary career; and it is in this department where he becomes more particularly interesting. We shall however give a few anecdotes from different parts of the work, and leave them to speak for themselves.

The following is the author's account of Dr. Smith, the author of the Treatise on Harmonies:

"Doctor Smith, who so worthily succeeded to the mastership of Trinity on my grandfather's decease, was unquestionably one of the most learned men of his time, as his works, especially his System of Optics, effectually demonstrate. He led the life of a student, abstemious and recluse, his family consisting of a sister, advanced in years, and unmarried like himself, together with a niece, who in the course of her residence there was married to a fellow of the college. He was a man, of whom it might be said—Philosophy *had marked him for her own*; of a thin spare habit, a nose prominently aquiline, and an eye penetrating as that of the bird, the semblance of whose beak marked the character of his face: the tone of his voice was shrill and nasal, and his manner of speaking such as denoted forethought and deliberation. How deep a theorist he was in harmony his treatise will evince; of mere melody he was indignantly neglectful, and could not reconcile his ear to the harpsichord, till by a construction of his own he had divided the half tones into their proper flats and sharps. Those who figured to themselves a Diogenes in Mason, might have fancied they beheld an Aristotle in Smith, who, had he lived in the age and fallen within the eye of the great designer of The School of Athens, might have left his image there without discrediting the groupe."

Our second extract contains an account of Pocock, Bishop of Ossory, the celebrated traveller into the east.

"That celebrated oriental traveller and author was a man of mild manners and primitive simplicity: having given the world a full detail of his researches in Egypt, he seemed to hold himself excused from saying any thing more about them, and observed in general an obdurate taciturnity. In his carriage and deportment he appeared to have contracted something of the Arab character, yet there was no austerity in his silence, and though his air was solemn, his temper was serene. When we were on our road to Ireland, I saw from the windows of the inn at Daventry a cavalcade of horsemen approaching on a gentle trot, headed by an elderly chief in clerical attire, who was followed by five servants at distances geometrically measured and most precisely maintained, and who upon entering the inn proved to be this distinguished prelate, conducting his horde with the phlegmatic patience of a Schiek."

Our next relates to George Faulkner, late conductor of the Dublin Journal; which if it at that time bore as miserable an appearance as an Irish Journal now bearing his name, at present possesses, it says little for the elegance of his workmanship, or the talents of its editor.

"I had more than once the amusement of dining at the house of that most singular being George Faulkner, where I found myself in a company so miscellaneously and whimsically classed, that

it looked more like a fortuitous concourse of oddities, jumbled together from all ranks, orders, and descriptions, than the effect of invitation and design. Description must fall short in the attempt to convey any sketch of that eccentric being to those, who have not read him in the notes of Jephson, or seen him in the mimickry of Foote, who in his portraits of Faulkner found the only sitter, whom his extravagant pencil could not caricature; for he had a solemn intrepidity of egotism, and a daring contempt of absurdity, that fairly outfaced imitation, and like Garrick's Ode on Shakspeare, which Johnson said "defied criticism," so did George in the original spirit of his own perfect buffoonery defy caricature. He never deigned to join in the laugh he had raised, nor seemed to have a feeling of the ridicule he had provoked; at the same time that he was pre-eminently and by preference the butt and buffoon of the company, he could find openings and opportunities for hits of retaliation, which were such left-handed thrusts as few could parry: nobody could foresee where they would fall, nobody of course was fore-armed, and as there was in his calculation but one supereminent character in the kingdom of Ireland, and he the printer of the Dublin Journal, rank was no shield against George's arrows, which flew where he listed, and fixed or missed as chance directed, he cared not about consequences. He gave good meat and excellent claret in abundance; I sate at his table once from dinner till two in the morning, whilst George swallowed immense potations with one solitary sodden strawberry at the bottom of the glass, which he said was recommended to him by his doctor for its cooling properties. He never lost his recollection or equilibrium the whole time, and was in excellent foolery; it was a singular coincidence, that there was a person in company, who had received his reprieve at the gallows, and the very judge, who had passed sentence of death upon him. This did not in the least disturb the harmony of the society, nor embarrass any human creature present. All went off perfectly smooth, and George, adverting to an original portrait of Dean Swift, which hung in his room, told us abundance of excellent and interesting anecdotes of the Dean and himself with minute precision and an importance irresistibly ludicrous. There was also a portrait of his late lady Mrs. Faulkner, which either made the painter or George a liar, for it was frightfully ugly, whilst he swore she was the most divine object in creation. In the mean time he took credit to himself for a few deviations in point of gallantry, and asserted that he broke his leg in flying from the fury of an enraged husband, whilst Foote constantly maintained that he fell down an area with a tray of meat upon his shoulder, when he was journeyman to a butcher; I believe neither of them spoke the truth. George prosecuted Foote for lampooning him on the stage of Dublin; his counsel the prime serjeant compared him to Socrates and his libeller to Aristophanes; this I believe was all that George got by his course of law; but he was told he had the best of the bargain in the comparison, and sate down contented under the shadow of his laurels. In process of time he became an alderman; I paid my court to him in that character, but I thought he was rather marred than mended by his dignity. George grew grave and sentimental, and sentiment and gravity sate as ill upon George, as a gown and square cap would upon a monkey."

Whilst his father resided in Ireland, the author took occasional opportunities of paying him visits; one of which, as giving an opportunity of drawing a character of the Irish, we are tempted to present to our readers:

"On the banks of the great river Shannon, in a nook of land, on all sides save one surrounded by an impassable bog, we found the episcopal residence, by courtesy called palace, and the church of Clonfert, by custom called cathedral. This humble residence was not devoid of comfort and convenience, for it contained some tolerable lodging rooms, and was capacious enough to receive me and mine without straightening the family. A garden of seven acres, well planted and disposed into pleasant walks, kept in the neatest order, was attached to the house, and at the extremity of a broad gravel walk in front stood the cathedral. Within this boundary the scene was cheerful; all without it was either im-

penetrable bog, or a dreary undressed country; but whilst all was harmony, hospitality, and affection underneath the parental roof, "the mind was its own place," and every hour was happy. My father lived, as he had ever done, beloved by all around him; the same benevolent and generous spirit, which had endeared him to his neighbours and parishioners in England, now began to make the like impressions on the hearts of a people as far different in character, as they were distant in place, from those, whom he had till now been concerned with. Without descending from the dignity he had to support, and condescending to any of the paltry modes of courting popularity, I instantly perceived how high he stood in their esteem; these observations I was perfectly in the way to make, for I had no forms to keep, and was withal uncommonly delighted with their wild eccentric humours, mixing with all ranks and descriptions of men, to my infinite amusement. If I have been successful in my dramatic sketches of the Irish character, it was here I studied it in its purest and most primitive state; from high to low it was now under my view. Though I strove to present it in its fairest and best light upon the stage, truth obliges me to confess there was another side of the picture, which could not have been contemplated without affright and horror! Atrocities and violences, which set all law and justice at defiance, were occasionally committed in this savage and licentious quarter, and suffered to pass over with impunity. In the neighbouring town of Eyre Court, they had by long usage assumed to themselves certain local and self-constituted privileges and exemptions, which rendered it unapproachable by any officers or emissaries of the civil power, who were universally denounced as mad-dogs, and subjected to be treated as such, and even put to death with as little ceremony or remorse. I speak of what actually occurred within my own immediate knowledge, whilst I resided with my father, in more instances than one, and those instances would be shocking to relate. To stem these daring outrages, and to stand in opposition to these barbarous customs, was an undertaking that demanded both philanthropy and courage, and my father of course was the very man to attempt it. Justice and generosity were the instruments he employed, and I saw the work of reformation so auspiciously begun, and so steadily pursued by him, as convinced me that minds the most degenerate may be to a degree reclaimed by actions that come home to their feelings, and are evidently directed to the sole purposes of amending their manners, and improving their condition. To suppose they were a race of beings stupidly vicious, devoid of sensibility, and delivered over by their natural inertness to barbarism and ignorance, would be the very falsest character that could be conceived of them; it is, on the contrary, to the quickness of their apprehensive faculties, to the precipitancy and unrestrained vivacity of their talents and passions, that we must look for the causes, and in some degree for the excuse of their excesses: together with their ferocious propensities there are blended and compounded humours so truly comic, eccentricities so peculiar, and attachments and affections at times so inconceivably ardent, that it is not possible to contemplate them in their natural characters without being diverted by extravagancies, which we cannot seriously approve, and captivated by professions, which we cannot implicitly give credit to."

The following account of Oliver Goldsmith, we think to be not altogether devoid of interest:

"I think our first meeting chanced to be at the British Coffee-house; when we came together, we very speedily coalesced, and I believe he forgave me for all the little fame I had got by the success of my West Indian, which had put him to some trouble, for it was not his nature to be unkind, and I had soon an opportunity of convincing him how incapable I was of harbouring resentment, and how zealously I took my share in what concerned his interest and reputation. That he was fantastically and whimsically vain all the world knows, but there was no settled and inherent malice in his heart. He was tenacious to a ridiculous extreme of certain pretensions, that did not, and by nature could not, belong to him, and at the same time inexcusably careless of the fame which he had powers to command. His table-talk was, as Garrick aptly compared it, like that of a parrot, whilst he wrote like Apollo; he had gleams of eloquence, and at times a majesty of

thought, but in general his tongue and his pen had two very different styles of talking. What foibles he had he took no pains to conceal, the good qualities of his heart were too frequently obscured by the carelessness of his conduct, and the frivolity of his manners. Sir Joshua Reynolds was very good to him, and would have drilled him into better trim and order for society, if he would have been amenable, for Reynolds was a perfect gentleman, had good sense, great propriety, with all the social attributes, and all the graces of hospitality, equal to any man. He well knew how to appreciate men of talents, and how near akin the Muse of poetry was to that art, of which he was so eminent a master. From Goldsmith he caught the subject of his famous Ugolino; what aids he got from others, if he got any, were worthily bestowed and happily applied.

"There is something in Goldsmith's prose, that to my ear is uncommonly sweet and harmonious; it is clear, simple, easy to be understood; we never want to read his period twice over, except for the pleasure it bestows; obscurity never calls us back to a repetition of it. That he was a poet there is no doubt, but the paucity of his verses does not allow us to rank him in that high station, where his genius might have carried him. There must be bulk, variety, and grandeur of design to constitute a first-rate poet. The Deserted Village, Traveller, and Hermit, are all specimens beautiful as such, but they are only birds eggs on a string, and eggs of small birds too.—One great magnificent *whole* must be accomplished before we can pronounce upon the *maker* to be the ὁ ποιήτης. Pope himself never earned this title by a work of any magnitude but his Homer, and that being a translation only constitutes him an accomplished versifier. Distress drove Goldsmith upon undertakings, neither congenial with his studies, nor worthy of his talents. I remember him, when in his chamber in the Temple, he showed me the beginning of his *Animated Nature*; it was with a sigh, such as genius draws, when hard necessity diverts it from its bent to drudge for bread, and talk of birds and beasts and creeping things, which Pidcock's show-man would have done as well. Poor fellow, he hardly knew an ass from a mule, nor a turkey from a goose, but when he saw it on the table. But publishers hate poetry, and Paternoster-row is not Parnassus. Even the mighty Doctor Hill, who was not a very delicate feeder, could not make a dinner out of the press till by a happy transformation into Hannah Glass he turned himself into a cook, and sold receipts for made-dishes to all the savoury readers in the kingdom. Then indeed the press acknowledged him second in fame only to John Bunyan; his feasts kept pace in sale with Nelson's fasts, and when his own name was fairly written out of credit, he wrote himself into immortality under an alias. Now, though necessity, or I should rather say the desire of finding money for a masquerade, drove Oliver Goldsmith upon abridging histories and turning Buffon into English, yet I much doubt if without that spur he would ever have put his Pegasus into action; no, if he had been rich, the world would have been poorer than it is by the loss of all the treasures of his genius and the contributions of his pen."

This sketch of Goldsmith is followed by another of Dr. Johnson; but as the insertion of the whole would far exceed our limits, and we wish not to mutilate it, we refer our readers to the work.

The author was not unfriendly to the late Lord Rodney; and, after detailing the success of his labours, along with others, in obtaining him the command of the fleet in the West Indies, he gives us the following anecdotes:

"It happened to me to be present, and sitting next to Admiral Rodney at table, when the thought seemed first to occur to him of breaking the French line by passing through it in the heat of the action. It was at Lord George Germain's house, at Stoneland, after dinner, when having asked a number of questions about the manœuvring of columns, and the effect of charging with them on a line of infantry, he proceeded to arrange a parcel of cherry-stones, which he had collected from the table and forming them as two fleets drawn up in line and opposed to each other, he at once arrested our attention, which had not been very generally engaged by his preparatory enquiries, by declaring he was determined so to pierce the enemy's line of

battle, (arranging his manœuvre at the same time on the table) if ever it was his fortune to bring them into action. I dare say this passed with some as mere rhapsody, and all seemed to regard it as a very perilous and doubtful experiment, but landsmen's doubts and difficulties made no impression on the admiral, who having seized the idea held it fast, and in his eager animated way went on manœuvring his cherry-stones, and throwing his enemy's representatives into such utter confusion, that already possessed of that victory in imagination, which in reality he lived to gain, he concluded his process by swearing he would lay the French admiral's flag at his sovereign's feet; a promise which he actually pledged to his majesty in his closet, and faithfully and gloriously performed.

"He was a singular and extraordinary man; there were some prominent and striking eccentricities about him, which on a first acquaintance might dismiss a cursory observer with inadequate and false impressions of his real character; for he would very commonly indulge himself in a loose and heedless style of talking, which for a time might intercept and screen from observation the sound good sense that he possessed, and the strength and dignity of mind, that were natural to him. Neither ought it to be forgotten that the sea was his element, and it was there, and not on land, that the standard ought to be planted by which his merits should be measured. We are apt to set that man down as vain-glorious and unwise, who fights battles over the table, and in the ardour of his conversation though amongst enviers and enemies, keeps no watch upon his words, confiding in their candour and believing them his friends. Such a man was Admiral Lord Rodney, whom history will record amongst the foremost of our naval heroes, and whoever doubts his courage might as well dispute against the light of the sun at noon-day.

"That he carried this projected manœuvre into operation, and that the effect of it was successfully decisive all the world knows. My friend Sir Charles Douglas, captain of the fleet, confessed to me that he himself had been adverse to the experiment, and in discussing it with the admiral had stated his objections; to these he got no other answer but that "his counsel was not called for; he required obedience only, he did not want advice." Sir Charles also told me that whilst the project was in operation, (the battle then raging) his own attention being occupied by the gallant defence made by the French Glorieux against the ships that were pouring their fire into her, upon his crying out "Behold, Sir George, the Greeks and Trojans contending for the body of Patroclus!" The admiral, then pacing the quarter-deck in great agitation pending the experiment of his manœuvre, (which in the instance of one ship had unavoidably miscarried) peevishly exclaimed, "Damn the Greeks and damn the Trojans; I have other things to think of." When, in a few minutes after, his supporting ship having led through the French line in a gallant style, turning with a smile of joy to Sir Charles Douglas, he cried out, "Now, my dear friend, I am at the service of your Greeks and Trojans, and the whole of Homer's Iliad, or as much of it as you please, for the enemy is in confusion, and our victory is secure."—This anecdote, correctly as I relate it, I had from that gallant officer, untimely lost to his country, whose candour scorned to rob his admiral of one leaf of his laurels, and who, disclaiming all share in the manœuvre, nay confessing he had objected to it, did in the most pointed and decided terms again and again repeat his honourable attestations of the courage and conduct of his commanding officer on that memorable day."

We next present our readers with our author's account of a Spanish actress:

"I was not often tempted to the theatre, which was small, dark, ill-furnished, and ill-attended; yet when the celebrated tragic actress, known by the title of the Tiranna, played, it was a treat, which I should suppose no other stage then in Europe could compare with. That extraordinary woman, whose real name I do not remember, and whose real origin cannot be traced, till it is settled from what particular nation or people we are to derive the outcast race of gypsies, was not less formed to strike beholders with the beauty and commanding majesty of her person, than to astonish all that heard her by the powers, that nature and art

had combined to give her. My friend Count Pietra Santa, who had honourable access to this great stage-heroine, intimated to her the very high expectation I had formed of her performances, and the eager desire I had to see her in one of her capital characters, telling her at the same time that I had been a writer for the stage in my own country. In consequence of this intimation, she sent me word that I should have notice from her, when she wished me to come to the theatre, till when, she desired I would not present myself in my box upon any night, though her name might be in the bill, for it was only when she liked her part, and was in the humour to play well, that she wished me to be present.

"In obedience to her message I waited several days, and at last received the looked-for summons. I had not been many minutes in the theatre before she sent a mandate to me to go home, for that she was in no disposition that evening for playing well, and should neither do justice to her own talents, nor to my expectations. I instantly obeyed this whimsical injunction, knowing it to be so perfectly in character with the capricious humour of her tribe. When something more than a week had passed, I was again invited to the theatre, and permitted to sit out the whole representation. I had not then enough of the language to understand much more than the incidents and action of the play, which was of the deepest cast of tragedy, for in the course of the plot she murdered her infant children, and exhibited them dead on the stage lying on each side of her, whilst she, sitting on the bare floor between them (her attitude, action, features, tones, defying all description), presented such a high-wrought picture of hysteric phrenzy, *laughing wild amidst severest woe*, as placed her in my judgment at the very summit of her art; in fact, I have no conception that the powers of acting can be carried higher, and such was the effect upon the audience, that whilst the spectators in the pit, having caught a kind of sympathetic phrenzy from the scene, were rising up in a tumultuous manner, the word was given out by authority for letting fall the curtain, and a catastrophe, probably too strong for exhibition, was not allowed to be completed.

"A few minutes had passed, when this wonderful creature, led in by Pietra Santa, entered my box: the artificial paleness of her cheeks, her eyes, which she had dyed of a bright vermilion round the edges of the lids, her fine arms bare to the shoulders, the wild magnificence of her attire, and the profusion of her dishevelled locks, glossy black as the plumage of the raven, gave her the appearance of something so more than human, such a Sybil, such an imaginary being, so awful, so impressive, that my blood chilled as she approached me not to ask but to claim my applause, demanding of me if I had ever seen any actress, that could be compared with her in my own, or any other country. "I was determined," she said, "to exert myself for you this night; and if the sensibility of the audience would have suffered me to have concluded the scene, I should have convinced you that I do not boast of my own performances without reason."

We shall close our extracts with the last paragraph but one, as containing the author's parting address to his reader. The last is a kind of closing dedication to his youngest daughter.

"I have now completed what occurred to me to say of an old man, whose writings have been very various, whose intentions have been always honest, and whose labours have experienced little intermission. I put the first pen to these Memoirs at the very close of the last year, and I conclude them in the middle of September. I had promised myself to the undertaking, and I was to proportion my dispatch to the measure of the time, upon which without presumption I might venture to reckon. As many of my readers, as may have staggered under the weight of such a bulky load, will have a fellow feeling for me, even though I shall have sunk under it: but if I have borne it through with tolerable success, and given an interest to some of the many pages which this volume numbers, I hope they will not mark with too severe a censure errors and inaccuracies—

Quas aut incuria fudit,
Aut humana parum cavit natura.—

"I have, through life, sincerely done my best according to my abilities for the

edification of my fellow creatures and the honour of my God. I pretend to nothing, whereby to be commended or distinguished above others of my rate, save only for that good will and human kindness, which descended to me from my ancestors, and cannot properly deserve the name of virtue, as they cost no struggle for the exertion of them. I am not exempt from anger, but I never let it fasten on me till it harden into malice or revenge. I cannot pass myself off for better than I have been where I am about to go, and if before my departure I were now to take credit for merits which I have not, the few, which I have, would be all too few to atone for the deceit; but I am thoroughly weary of the task of talking of myself, and it is with unfeigned joy I welcome the conclusion of my task and my talk."

It has rarely happened that an author (though many have written sketches of their lives, published after their death) has ventured to send a work, circumstanced like the present, into the world, whilst himself remained in it; and his situation in consequence is novel, if not hazardous. It is new from want of precedent; hazardous, because, in speaking freely to the public, which an author, if honest, must necessarily do of characters living at the time, or but lately deceased; and if he possess the feelings or prejudices incident to humanity, he must naturally risk offending others possessed of prejudices and feelings which possibly, from their being many times stronger and more given way to than his own, may be many times more certain of being wounded. We admire Mr. Cumberland's work, and we can do it without prejudice, because we have no part or lot in the matter: we therefore give him full credit for his integrity, when he asserts that passion has not influenced his pen whilst sketching contemporary characters and scenes. If his contemporaries all think so, we give him joy, and congratulate him for having passed over such a fiery ordeal as his publication would appear to us to have necessarily subjected him to.

We cannot, however, take leave of it without thinking ourselves bound to recommend it to the notice of such of our readers as have the least taste for that instructive species of composition, biography. With respect to language, it is not strong, arising from a little disposition in the author to round his periods. It is interspersed with a few of the author's poetic flights, which, in some instances, rise not so high as the sublime. Propriety and morality are admirably kept in view; and though we are tempted to think lightly of *every thing belonging to, written for, or connected with the stage*, we do not, on the whole, find fault with the author in this respect:—were we to say all, we should only lament that he turned not his talents entirely to other subjects. As a biography, so to speak, of scholastic connexions, students, and studies, it falls far short of the Lives of Bishop Horne, and of Gibbon:—as a piece of literary biography, it will hardly be placed in the same rank with that of Dr. Johnson. The author's route, indeed, is altogether so different from those pursued by the writers in question, and his situation so totally different from theirs, that they scarcely can be said to stand in competition. These circumstances, with the different mode of execution adopted by those authors, from that chosen by Mr. Cumberland, has only left us to determine on the superiority of each. We prefer theirs; and therefore think the present to be inferior in merit. We mention them not invidiously; for it will be seen by the space we have allotted to Mr. C.'s work that it stands well in our opinion. Of its general character it may be said, that the author enters into few details, characters, or results; all are spoken of in general, and with few digressions into the regions of science;

whilst those above alluded to abound in little else—they are often a series of minute details on great subjects—whilst Mr. Cumberland's are often general details on subjects not commonly interesting, or if interesting, their effect is often destroyed by being so generally spoken of. The same circumstance often produces a want of animation; and where such a want is striking in a work like the present, the reader will often turn over two or three pages at once. It is nevertheless, on the whole, a respectable work; particularly when the biographer sketches the characters of some of his literary acquaintances, such as Goldsmith, Johnson, Garrick, Henderson, Rogers, and Sir J. B. Burges; together with a few political ones, as Lords Sackville and Halifax; and others, in a different sphere. In describing domestic scenes and characters he seems to be quite at home; and probably from that circumstance, or from his occupation as a writer of plays, he is almost insensibly led into it on all occasions; as we may instance in his concluding remarks on an unsuccessful embassay undertaken to the Spanish court, where he describes each individual of his private circle, not disdaining even to enumerate the virtues of his horses, whilst he resided at Madrid; though, from his own account, he reaped little profit or satisfaction, except in this way, for his disquiet and labour. The work will be read, but not often; nor will it be much sought after as a book of reference: domestic life, in which the author, it would seem, has been fortunate almost beyond comparison, and domestic sketches of character, employ his principal attention, and constitute the principal merit of the work. Ω.

VI. A DISSERTATION *on the* PROPHECIES *that have been fulfilled, are now fulfilling, or will be fulfilled, relative to the great period of* 1260 *years; the Papal and Mohammedan Apostacies; the tyrannical reign of Antichrist, or the Infidel Power; and the Restoration of the Jews.* *By* GEORGE STANLEY FABER, B.D. 2 *vols.* 8*vo. pp. about* 400 *each.* 16*s. bds.* 1806. Rivingtons.

IN this age of the powers of darkness, when blind human reason is substituted for the light of the gospel; when infidelity, armed with diabolical machinations, zealously erects its crest against the true God and his Christ; it is with no small exultation we hail the appearance of champions in the cause of divine truth, in the cause of the word of God, in the propagation of the gospel of Christ. Next to preachers sent by the special command of the Most High, we must undoubtedly place interpreters of prophecy. The defenders of the authenticity of the gospel must necessarily rank high in the estimation of Christians; but it is to him who successfully, and in coincidence with real occurrences, interprets the revelation of God, that we must yield the palm of superiority. The former reasons with men, the latter convinces; the one teaches, the other inspires: in short, though both are useful, the latter makes an appeal to the hearts and consciences of men altogether so irresistible, as to lay them prostrate at the feet of Him by whom all revelation was given.

Many good men have attempted to illustrate the propheeies of the Old and New Testaments, and though every one has failed in a greater or less degree, there have been few who have not made some valuable discoveries. Those who wrote two hundred years ago could foresee little of the particular and present revolutions of states, in as far as they are not minutely detailed in revelation. And with respect to ourselves, though we

are much nearer the *time of the end*, many things are still in the womb of time, and unperceivable by human ken: though the tyranny and particular actions of the second beast are detailed with far greater minuteness than those of the first. However, many have gone to and fro, and knowledge has been increased, not merely in this, but in all departments of wisdom. The interpreters of the early part of the last two centuries, were often put to their ingenuity, to apply prophecies long since fulfilled; those nearer our times still struggled in fixing their precise application, but ventured to approximate nearer towards their own day; and those of the present age have succeeded much better in fixing all, and often ventured to guess at the future. Though all have hitherto failed to fix the past with tolerable precision, yet they have evidently approximated nearer to truth, and though their predictions as to the future only venture to sketch grand outlines, they also appear to render more and more valid this approximation. Thus, though the Most High permitted the unmasked march of atheism for a season, yet he now begins to raise his standard on high, and to make himself known as the God of all, as the friend of sinners who lean towards him, as the dreadful foe of those who wilfully reject him. With humble reverence we say, offence must needs come by some, but woe to those by whom it does come; and let us hope, that as our country has long since, nominally at least, come out from amongst the followers of the beast, we shall always be spared from wearing "the mark, or the name, or the number of his name," on our foreheads or in our right hands. Thus shall we be delivered from the judgments inflicted by the Most High on papacy, on infidelity, and their gaping admirers.

Of all the interpreters of prophecy of our own time, Mr. Faber appears to have come nearest the truth; though in many things he undoubtedly fails in elucidating the veiled mysteries of God; it is nevertheless no great fault to have failed in so daring an enterprize, and it is a great merit to have succeeded so well as he has actually done.

After dedicating his work to the Bishop of Durham, the author proceeds in his preface to lay down the rules by which he is guided in treating his subject; and commences with a general statement of it in the first chapter of the FIRST VOLUME, the principal object of which is to ascertain the beast who was to continue forty and two months, in the prophecies of Daniel and St. John. The four grand prophecies of the former are so closely connected with, and so highly illustrated by the Apocalypse, and the whole together form so complete a history of the church of God from the Babylonish captivity, but particularly from the time of St. John, that we defy the most daring infidel, if he possess one grain of candour (so notoriously wanting to the whole tribe), to get over it without, secretly at least, acknowledging their accuracy. That part of the apocalypse in connexion with the present work is divided into three successive periods of seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven vials, all of which refer to as many states of the church. Under the three last trumpets the period preceding the 1260 days of antichrist is comprehended; the final trumpet including the seven vials of God's wrath after his destruction. This period of 1260 days, Mr. Faber asserts to be equal to the whole duration of the great twofold apostacy, viz. the Romish church temporal, and the same church spiritual, in its dominant state. We should rather think, however, that there is no need of separating these, when we consider the closeness and comprehensiveness of the prophetic language. After detailing a variety of circumstances

connected with the general progress of the apocalyptic predictions, he closes the chapter with enumerating the points of correspondence between the prophecies of Daniel and St. John.

In the second chapter, the author considers the symbolical language of prophecy, in which we find much to admire; but it is an outline, and that a brief one, of the subject. He considers a few of the principal and more striking; but we think the whole of the apocalyptic language to be so big with meaning, that were we to attempt such a *magnum opus*, as that of expounding and interpreting it, we should scarcely neglect one single word in the whole.

The third chapter treats on the scriptural phrases of the *latter days*, the *last days*, and the *time of the end*; and, except in the dates of their commencement, the author is luminous. He supposes the expiration of the 1260 days to usher in the millenium point blank; but if that glorious period be, as is usually supposed, a time when all men shall learn righteousness, we only at present behold feeble preparations for it. Preparations, however, are actually making for this grand event, in this country, but hitherto they are much feebler in the established church than amongst the sectaries, viz. the Arminian and Calvinistic dissenters, the only two classes of doctrine borne out by the scriptures, the two true churches, the *two olive branches*, the *two candlesticks*, the *two witnesses:* there are still fewer preparations for it among the Jews.

In the fourth chapter, the two first prophecies of Daniel, and the little horn of the fourth beast, are discussed at large; and the author enters, as it were, into the heart of his subject. The principal positions he advances and maintains are, that there shall be no more than four empires universal, so far as the church is concerned, from that time to the commencement of the Redeemer's kingdom. The last, or Roman beast, is described as having ten horns, and a little horn rising amongst them, and though the latter has usually been supposed to epitomize the history of Antichrist both in the east and the west, the author thinks it to refer solely to the papal power ecclesiastical, or Antichrist of the west. The remainder of this chapter, which is occupied in supporting his hypothesis, is profound and, generally speaking, correct; though there are few pages but may be said to contain something against which objections might be raised. If errors appear, they must, like the errors of all great masters, be combated by knowledge and profundity alone, because even the crudest conjectures of learned men have generally something more than mere fancy and conceit for their foundation.

The fifth chapter considers Daniel's vision of the ram and he-goat, and the little horn of the latter. We believe it has usually been customary with commentators to apply this little horn of the latter beast to the Roman empire, and eventually to popery: but Mr. Faber, with justice and propriety, applies it to Mohammedanism. We had, till we read his work, uniformly applied it in this manner, but we now think otherwise; and though we think the accomplishment of many of his dates to be at present unrevealed to mortal eyes, yet we acknowledge the application to be just, and, with the exception of a few mere side glances, to be entirely his own.

The sixth chapter, which concludes the first volume, treats of Daniel's last vision, and the king who magnified himself above every god. It is singular enough, that the author should have so sagaciously departed from the usual routine of commentators in the last chapter, and afterwards fall into an error similar to

theirs in this. In the former part of the fourth and last vision, Daniel is decidedly giving us a history of the east with the precision of an annalist, and although he is undoubtedly pursuing the regular thread of his narrative, Mr. F.'s interpretation wrests him from his purpose, and compels him to describe the infidel power of the west. Would it not be fairer to suppose the prophet still speaking of the east, and to suppose the king who regards not the *desire of women*, so characteristic of Mohammedanism as to form one of the rewards of its paradise, to be as yet unrevealed? May he not be at this moment raising his crest in the Wahabees, and other sectarians of the Mohammedan empire? We think the idea so obvious, that we cannot refrain pointing it out to the learned author. He applies it to infidel France; and thus, as we said above, compels the prophet to break the thread of his own fair and clearly continued narrative. Infidel France we apprehend to be much better described in the second beast of the 13th chapter of the apocalypse; and even this application, which is rejected by Mr. Faber, will, by attentive consideration, and supposing the present period to be that of erecting an image to the first beast, which had a wound by the sword and did live, not be thought altogether improbable. The fact is, there is such an intimate resemblance betwixt the great apostacies of the eastern and western world, both in their origin, progress, and termination, that commentators have, in almost all instances, confounded them together, and often attributed to each the feats of the other. With true *amor patriæ*, or what is more likely, with much greater ignorance of the history of the east, they have made all things fit to their own division of the globe. Both apostacies arose at the same period, but it is not unlikely that the eastern will outlive the western a little while, till the 1290 or 1335 days, when it is probable that the Jews will begin to look towards their own land. We will here again confess, that we applied this prophecy to the western world; till, in reading this book, and often referring to the prophecies themselves, we were induced to alter our opinion, and apply them to a power at present, in all probability, unrevealed. This chapter, like the others, shews the hand of a great master throughout, and before taking leave of it, we would ask the learned author what he thinks of the newly-created batch of continental kings, dependant, like the ten horns of the beast, for support on their parent or creator? Three have we already seen raise their heads with mushroom-like celerity, and as an image is every way inferior to its prototype, even if it speak; so the image to the beast which had a wound by the sword and did live, will in all probability be like him in some respects, and if we may credit the scripture of truth, he will for a short time possess powers not inferior to him. If it be objected that this interpretation will not apply, because receiving it will afford no opportunity for finding the Romish power ecclesiastical, we answer, that unfortunately for mankind, the secular and ecclesiastical power have hitherto been joined in the same government, a rule without an exception in the history of the world, till the time of American independence. That great continent wisely separates them; and happy the state, who, following their example, shall leave the people to provide their own pastors. Happy will it be for mankind, when they are permitted by their Great Master to be their own providers in church administration.

We think this work to be of too great importance to be passed over hastily; we shall therefore defer the conclusion of our remarks to a future opportunity. Many have writ-

ten well on the subject, but none have equalled Mr. F.: and though we do not agree with him in numerous particulars, his book is undoubtedly the best extant. No man anxious to seek into the designs of the Most High, and is in any degree acquainted with the respectability of its contents, will suffer himself to be without it; nor ought he to consider himself even a tolerable proficient in the subject, unless he is fully acquainted with the whole of Mr. Faber's ideas. If some of them are errors, they are the errors of a great master, and have not been fallen into without careful and mature consideration. K.

[*To be continued.*]

VII. LETTERS *from* PARAGUAY; *describing the settlements of Monte Video and Buenos Ayres; the Presidencies of Rioja Minor, Nombre de Dios, St. Mary and St. John, &c. &c. with the Manners, Customs, and Religious Ceremonies, &c. of the Inhabitants. Written during a residence of seventeen months in that country. By* JOHN CONSTANCE DAVIE, *Esq.* 8*vo. pp.* 293. 5*s. boards.* 1805. G. Robinson.

THE utility of travelling is at present so well appreciated that there is little necessity for us to enter into discussions on the subject; and the amusement and instruction afforded by well-written books of the kind, is too well known to receive additional recommendation by our praise. South America has lately become highly interesting to us; several of our countrymen having within a short period presented us with partial accounts of the manners and customs of its conquerors and indigenous inhabitants. The former, it seems, carry governance with a high hand; whilst the latter, having become, in their case we will neither say infected nor tainted with the love of liberty, desirous of a little less oppression, are hourly preparing to emancipate themselves from their haughty rulers: even the young priests, and the more intelligent natives, begin to talk of reform; and there is little doubt but popery in South America, as well as in Europe, is in some danger of being thrust out of doors. Whether the time of such a revolution would be a fit one to attack the power of the Spaniards in that quarter, we leave politicians to determine; but of this we are convinced, that were the natives of England and the British government judiciously to attempt wresting it from their hands, there is more than probability that success would be the result. In the event, too, of the independance of Portugal being threatened, it would be no bad policy in this nation to take the Brasils under our protection, and thus forestall the Emperor of the French in his ambitious designs. Mr. Davie, who does not seem to have written with any other view than that of amusement, continually glances at such a change, thinking, that under the known integrity of Britons, the amiable natives of South America would enjoy a degree of respite from oppression, which they have rarely experienced since the expulsion of the Jesuits, and who, it would seem, had they had the will, could have protected themselves by force against all the power of Spain or Portugal. This is the time of wonderful events, and it is more than probable that we shall hear of revolutionising in that part of the world: a consummation, to all appearance, devoutly to be wished, could we divest ourselves of the remembrance of those horrible scenes presented by this frightful monster, to our astonished eyes in republican France.

The writer of these letters, who seems to have commenced traveller for amusement, left England for America; and from thence was tempted

to proceed for Botany Bay. In his course however, he was arrested along with his companions, and compelled to run for Rio de la Plata, to repair the damage done to their vessel, by a tremendous storm. As Americans, they were subjected to none of the vexations suffered by Englishmen in like circumstances in Brasil; and whilst refitting, the author was seized with the fever of the country, which compelled his captain to leave him to the care of the monks of St. Dominic, at Buenos Ayres. By this fraternity he was treated with great care; and by the friendship and good offices of one of them, together with the skill of a native, he was restored to health, after labouring under a state of fatuity or delirium, the result of his disease, many weeks. His residence here, his indifference to all religion, or, as he calls it, to religious ceremonies, and a curious coincidence of circumstances, led him to remain as a noviciate, and eventually to obtain a tolerable account of the interior of the country, both from personal observation and authentic information; so that, if ever he should revisit his native land, his countrymen may expect some information, should he choose to gratify their curiosity. It seems that, about the year 1803, he was heard of from Chili, which some of the last letters in this work represent him to be desirous of visiting; but whether he be dead, or in confinement, is at present unknown by his friends. It is true, that his letters are not so *eclatant* as the travels of Humboldt, but they are much better adapted to the common reader; and there seems little doubt, as we said above, that should the author revisit his country, he would be able to communicate much useful and interesting matter to the public.

The work, generally speaking, is far from profound; but what it wants in that respect, it gains as a book for general perusal, the author's manner effectually keeping him clear of ambiguity or dulness. His remarks refer, for the most part, to the manners and customs of the people, foreign and native; to the government and character of the Spaniards; and to the dispositions of their Indian subjects. The worship of the sun, it would seem, is not yet extinct amongst the unsubdued tribes; and those brought into a state of civilization by the mild yoke of the Jesuits, already begin to revolt at the dominance of their present governors. Some few bright and shining lights are to be found amongst a host of careless preachers; and though engaged in turning the natives from one species of darkness to another, there is more than reason to hope that they will meet with their Saviour's benediction. Were all men true christians in their hearts, human misery would be compelled in a great degree to flee the earth; and whether Papists, Methodists, or Calvinists by profession, all would be well.

A few extracts will present our readers with a fair view of the work; and though they cannot detail all the facts it contains, they will be enabled by them to judge of its general character.

The author, though fond of botany, has in his letters made little mention of natural history, or of the various productions of this unknown continent: the manners of the people and the state of public opinion, are circumstances on which he most frequently dwells; and as a specimen of his sentiments on South American politics, we present the following extract; it places the Jesuits in a favourable light:

"The more I contemplate the filth and laziness of these people, the more I regret that the miserly Henry, when applied to by Columbus, was not inspired

by the demon of avarice, if no more laudable motive could have actuated him, to have fitted out the noble adventurer, and by that means to have secured this country, this rich delightful country, to the crown of Great Britain. The Spaniards possess blessings they never did, nor ever will, know how to appreciate; for, slaves to gold, they neglect every other advantage. Had the English possessed this southern world, thousands and tens of thousands, nay millions, would have blessed the hour when they became their conquerors.

"The Jesuits, though now abolished, have shown, in the immense superstructure they have raised in the interior of this and the adjoining provinces, what wise legislators they could make if gifted with the rod of power, by the several large commonwealths (if I may use the word) which they have established: and when I consider the fragile foundation on which they erected an edifice that amazes and confounds the world, I know not which to admire most, their zeal for religion, or their superior political wisdom and thorough knowledge of the human heart. The more I reflect upon it the more I imagine that the fathers who first attempted the conversion of the Indians must have been inspired: few could have persevered under such dreadful hardships as they suffered if they had not experienced a divine impulse: they knew the secret workings of the passions; they possessed penetration beyond the depth of common men, and saw that cruelty and deceit were not the means to win the hearts of rude untutored beings, living in a state of nature, and sensible of no laws but those which she imposes.

"But the hope of bringing over these poor people to a knowledge of the true and only God was not the only motive that actuated these deep and cunning politicians; they had a greater and more enlarged sphere of action in view. They daily witnessed the imprudence of exercising coercive measures over the poor conquered people, who had made such noble and heroic stands to preserve their native blessing, liberty, and repress their barbarous invaders: the fathers were convinced that men who had acted uniformly with such determined valour would be much sooner won by mild and gentle treatment than by acts of violence and oppression; they, therefore, about the middle of the sixteenth century, petitioned his catholic majesty for leave to enter the interior of Paraguay and Tucuman, and endeavour by means of persuasion *only* to initiate in the principles of the christian religion the hordes of Indians who had fled from the persecutions of the Spaniards; and by thus planting the gospel in these remote regions, bring over to the service of the state thousands that were then wandering far distant from any Spanish settlement.

"Their petitions were granted; and a vast number of missionaries, selected from the society of Jesus, were sent out at the king's expence to put in practice the theory they had adopted; and it was settled between his majesty and the mission, that the state should be at the charge of transporting them to the scene of action, where they were to open their spiritual campaign, in which the governors of the provinces, by order of the court, were not to interfere in any shape relative to the establishment, nor was any Spaniard whatever to enter their districts without leave obtained.

"They were to be provided with necessaries of every kind for the arduous undertaking; and to be supplied from time to time with articles of clothing, furniture, and every other thing which the exigency of their situation might require.

"The missionaries, on their part, agreed to pay to the crown annually a sort of capitation tax, of a piastre per head for every individual they might bring over to the faith of Christ; and, in proportion as their proselytes increased, to send a certain number to the royal works or army whenever the state should think proper to make the demand, provided the converted Indians were sufficiently numerous to admit of drafts being made for that purpose, which was to be done, if I conceive the matter right, in much the same manner as the militia is drawn for with us; but with this difference, that the Indians are drafted for *life*; and the services required of them are severe in the extreme when compared to the employ of our militia, who are never called into action but on extraordinary occasions, and disbanded at the end of the war to return, if they think proper, to their native towns and families: but the poor Indians, once sent from their peaceful settlements, never return to them

more; they are condemned for the rest of their lives to toil and misery, either to work in the mines, or to form a kind of auxiliary troop to fight against their unsubdued brethren, who even now make frequent inroads on the Spanish settlements. Others are doomed to labour incessantly at the public works, and many are consigned to the different offices of state, and pass like heirlooms from one master to another with the post to which they are attached. The present major-general, who lives adjacent to the fort, and has the command in all military matters in this part of the world, has several hundreds of these wretched people at his disposal; and I wish I could add that his treatment of them is such as redounds to his credit as a humane man and a judicious officer; but truth compels me to say, that, on the contrary, the severity which is exercised over them is such as must shock the understanding and pain the heart of every person endowed with merely the common feelings of justice and humanity.

"No wonder then that to serve a Spaniard is deemed by the natives the most dreadful of all calamities; every Indian shrinks from the sound of a Spaniard's voice, and among the unreduced his religion is held in the utmost abhorrence.

"The dispersion, or rather expulsion, of the crafty Jesuits was become an act of state necessity, since they had established in the very centre of the southern provinces an immense theocracy, which even threaten to overturn, at some future period, the power of the crown, if the various accounts I have received may be relied on; for, at the time of their expulsion, they could command, as spiritual guides, several hundred thousand families, and among them no less an army of well-disciplined troops than from eighty to a hundred thousand men, all properly trained, clothed, and accoutred, and ready to follow wherever their pastors should think fit to lead them.

"How far this estimate may be true I know not; I give it you on the report of father Hernandez; and I have heard the same confirmed by don Manuel, who is of opinion that the *present* race of ecclesiastics have not at all mended the condition of the Indians, who are in fact worse off and more oppressed than before. He thinks, and says, that were the English to make a spirited attack on Buenos Ayres in conjunction with the Portuguese on the side of the Brazils, there is not a doubt of the Indians joining them; the face of things being so materially changed since the dismissal of the Jesuits, under whom they had been detached from a state of barbarism, instructed in the knowledge of our blessed christian faith, and taught the use of arms, agriculture, and commerce; nay, even some of the fine arts are known among them; I myself have seen several specimens of drawings done by the Indians, which, from their correctness and beauty, I should readily have taken for the work of an Italian artist. I had sketched two or three views from the convent garden, and thought them tolerably well done; but I found them very indifferent when compared with those examples of savage genius, which plainly evinces that great care must have been taken to instruct them, and proves that those very people we have been taught to look upon as little better than the brute creation, possess not only a clear comprehension of perceptible objects, however different from any thing they have been accustomed to, but elegant and refined intellects, and capacities competent to execute whatever an enlightened European may boast as an exclusive accomplishment. The Jesuits judged and acted right; mildness and persuasion have succeeded in drawing forth from obscurity those gems of reason which, like the diamond, remained hid in darkness till the ingenuity of man found the means of disclosing their beauties. I hope it is not sinful to wish this oppressed and deeply injured people might make one more grand effort; and, by the aid of the still unconquered nations, assert their rights, and drive these barbarous tyrants from their lands.—They are now brought to a knowledge of the true God, and human sacrifices are no longer known among them. The rights of nations, and the relative duties of society, they are now informed of; nor do they neglect the practice. Then will not divine vengeance be at length appeased by the deaths of so many thousands, as, since the conquest, have paid, through the upraised arm of power, the debts due to offended Heaven? I am certain, my friend, this great revolution might be accomplished, could the British arms but gleam upon the plains of Para-

guay: believe me, this is no idle chimera or phantasm of the brain, but the result of critical inquiry and mature reflection.

"Had the Spaniards pursued their conquest with mildness and lenity, no honest or good man would have envied them the possession of this rich and fertile country; but every one would have rejoiced to see so many human beings drawn from their savage life and barbarous customs to partake in christian occupations and rational enjoyments, and know that they were formed for nobler purposes than to be waging eternal war, and, in their frantic triumphs, to sacrifice and eat each other. Such would have been the happy consequences of a humane policy on the part of the Spaniards; but the direct contrary method has been pursued by those who term themselves the most zealous for the cross of Christ. Deceived, deluded, arrogating mortals! the sighs of the suffering Indians will yet be heard at the throne of Mercy, and their tears, ere long, be washed away in the blood of the Spaniards."

The following extract will present us with a contrast between the opinions of the good fathers of the convent of St. Dominic, and their young noviciates; it tells us loudly that popery, wherever its baleful influence has spread, has as universally ended in infidelity:

"During vespers, last evening, a tremendous storm came on, and the chapel was illuminated with double the number of candles used at prayers; but we had little reason for doing so, for in one moment the whole place seemed one sheet of liquid fire, which played with apparent wantonness round the image of the Virgin, which had been set up, with a vast deal of ceremony, about two hours before, that the fathers might supplicate her, should occasion require her services; which, as they pre-imagined, actually was the case. They therefore, as the storm increased, fell down upon their knees at her feet, and with earnest supplications implored her and St. Dominic to take their house and themselves under their protection. But, though they prayed and sung most devoutly and with all their might, the mother of God and the canonised Dominic remained deaf to all their entreaties: and what aggravated the matter was, that a tree which grew close to the east end of the chapel, and had been in a tottering condition for some time, fell down at the moment when the fathers' devotion was at its height, and, woful to relate, dashed its branches through the chapel window, and sacrilegeously threw down the blessed Virgin herself, with all her glittering paraphernalia; and even the image of St. Dominic, a venerable old figure, had part of his nose and one of his hands knocked off. At this dreadful catastrophe the whole community arose as with one consent, and fairly took to their heels across the court yard, leaving the holy lady prostrate before the shrine of St. Dominic. I ran with the rest; but I happened to be one of those usually in all foot-races consigned to the devil—I mean the hindmost. The pampero blew like a Jamaica tornado, and whistled through the long vaulted galleries with a horrid hollow violence. One clap of thunder succeeded another before we had time to say God preserve us! and sounded, as it ran along the concave of heaven, as though all the artillery of the skies was opened to annihilate us; while from the celestial watering-pot the rain descended in overwhelming torrents, and quickly deluged every street and garden. The bells of all the churches in the city were set a ringing, in order, as they said, to allay the sound of the thunder. God knows how far this had any effect; but the heavenly noises appeared to me completely to drown the terrestrial ones, and retain, as they ought, their pre-eminence. This scene, taken altogether, was quite *nouvelle* to me; but, notwithstanding its terrors, I could not for the soul of me repress a smile when I turned my eyes around and saw the fathers, some upon their knees, some upon their faces, and others throwing the holy water about with as much profusion as the ladies of New York do the whitewash; their hands trembling, their eyes staring, and their features distorted into as many grotesque forms as there were individuals. The fall of the Virgin was regarded as ominous; and in their terror they expressed their apprehensions that it foreboded the downfall of their house. Possessed with this alarming idea, they supplicated every saint in the calendar, except St. Dominic,

to ward off the approaching evil: he, poor soul! was thought to have but little influence in heaven, or he would have taken care to prevent such a dreadful disaster and disgrace. I joined in their prayers as devoutly as my risible faculties would permit; for, maugre all my endeavours, the more I strove to conceal my merriment the more uncontrollable it appeared. I was therefore fain to hide my face on the ground, and let the effects of laughter pass for those of fear."

* * * * * *

"The young novices—who I very well know are no real devotees—were, I could plainly perceive, as much tickled with the ludicrousness of the adventure as myself; and had it not thundered so tremendously would have sought an opportunity of intimating to me that they thought it a good practical joke, and enjoyed the fathers' perplexity; for, by every glance they cast upon me when we reached the refectory in safety, I was convinced they had as much trouble as myself to refrain from laughing aloud at the distress and dismay of the elders. This circumstance has given me fresh reason to believe that superstition and bigotry are about to quit these regions, as they have already done the European continent; and I do not know of any corner of the globe they can take shelter in when driven from hence. The Portuguese, it is true, still retain their ancient bigotry; but I am of opinion, that when the prince regent ascends the throne, the reign of monks and Jesuits, with their relics and idolatrous trumpery, will go nigh to be transplanted to the bottom of the Tagus: for, if I may prognosticate as to the probable event of things, extra-devotion must fly the realm, or Lusitania will no longer remain subject to the house of Braganza. Strange mutations in church and state have taken place since the French revolution, and still stranger will follow before the republican mania ceases to operate."

It had long been the author's desire to visit some of the presidencies in the interior of Paraguay, which, after the expulsion of the Jesuits, had been so heavily squeezed by military government as to sigh for relief from a yoke so different and so galling as that they now experienced. With a view to conciliate matters between the natives and the military in Rioja Minor, a presidency on the lake Iberi, a respectable member of the convent, and friend to the writer, was dispatched, who selected Mr. Davie, alias brother Mathias, to accompany him. Their journey up the Plata and Uraguay is entertaining, and few Englishmen have pursued the same route. Father Hernandez, such was his pastor's name, lived long enough to behold the beginning of sorrows, but it was left to the author to see their accomplishment. The wild native Indians, in conjunction with those in the town, made an assault on it, and a friendly Indian alone preserved the author from death with the rest: but as the account may throw a little light on the affairs of that part of the world, we present the more interesting part of it. Two of the brotherhood were concerned in the insurrection.

"I was sitting in the apartment formerly occupied by the venerable Hernandez, reflecting on my situation, and wondering for what new vicissitudes I was reserved, when I was roused from my reverie by the loud confused din of an approaching multitude. Presently a signal-gun was fired, the drums beat to arms, and the piercing war-shout of the Indians burst upon my ears. I sprung in terror from my seat, and ran to the window, but it only commanded a view of the convent garden. I was therefore hastily returning to the door when it flew open, and the friendly Indian who made my secret box for me rushed into the room, followed by about twenty of the town Indians. 'Come with me, father Mathias,' said he—for that is my religious title—'for with us you will be safe.' 'What is the matter?' cried I; 'what does all this mean?' 'Father Michael and father Joseph,' returned he, 'have been rescued from the balsas by some tribes of the wild Charuas: they have joined the town Indians, who have risen in a body and are now surrounding every Spaniard's house; but I will preserve you.' Saying this, he threw part

of a tiger's skin across my shoulders, and pulled me after him out of the monastery, and towards the strand. All we past was tumult, horror, and confusion; the military were flying in all directions, pursued by the Charuas armed with long barbed darts, which they sent through the air with amazing celerity. The townsmen had taken possession of the signal-post, storehouse, and arsenal, and being at the hour of siesta, all the Spaniards had been taken unprepared. I perceived, as I passed along from the monastery to the water, that all who had not the whole or part of a tiger's skin upon their shoulders, were immediately sacrificed, either by the town Indians, who wore this symbol, or by the Charuas, who had theirs tied about their waists as their common, and indeed only covering. When I reached the strand, the first objects I beheld were the dead bodies of the commandant and major-general, pierced in every part with darts and arrows. I have since learned they dragged the former from his bed, and massacred him; his wife and family were killed in much the same manner; and so sudden and unexpected was the blow, that not a single destined victim had escaped. My friendly Indian I found had provided a piece of tiger's skin for me even before I returned with father Hernandez; but so very secret were the conspirators, that, although he reposed the greatest confidence in me, he would not venture to give me the token, or drop any hint concerning it, until he saw his friends had entered the town, and secured the principal characters, he then hastened to the convent to protect me. When the Indians pointed out to me the mangled body of the unfortunate Zulucta, the horror in my countenance became, I am certain, too visible not to be noticed by my conductor, who turned to his companions and said he would take me to his friends at the town-house. Thither I was immediately hurried, amidst the shrieks of the vanquished, and the cries of the women and children, who vainly endeavoured to save from the uplifted weapon, a father, a husband, or a brother. The unsubdued Indians set no limits to their fury, but wreaked their vengeance indiscriminately, without sparing either age or sex. The tumult of my mind can be better imagined than described as I passed over the bleeding bodies of those who, in a moment of fatal security, had fallen by the hands of these merciless beings. When we came to the public hall, I found a vast number of the town Indians keeping guard over some of the military whom they had taken prisoners without wounding them, but how they were to be disposed of I could not learn. When I entered, my friendly Indian introduced me to a relation of his, who held the post of teniente, saying to him—'This is my friend, and no Spaniard, he must be protected.' He then handed me within a rail of bamboo that parted the room, and hastily quitted the place. The other immediately presented me some wine and biscuit—meat and drink are the first offering of Indian friendship—and I was constrained to partake of them, lest, by a refusal, I should offend; but never did a morsel pass my lips with so much repugnance, not even my commons of mutton while at college. The tumult without now appeared to increase, but not a single gun was fired: I therefore concluded that all the mischief was done by darts and arrows. At length the sounds began to die away, and as night approached, silence came with it. The hall, however, where I still remained was soon filled with the town Indians and the chiefs of the wild tribe, to all of whom I was presented. They looked at me with a mixture of surprise and admiration; this was owing to the colour of my skin; they had never seen any man so white before. God knows, I regarded them in a much less favourable light than they appeared to consider me.—Most of them were covered with blood and dirt; they were strong muscular men, with a savage ferocity of countenance that made me shudder, though I am not apt to be frightened at any one: but a scene like this was entirely new to me, and I trust I shall never in my life witness such another."

By this and what afterwards passed between the two rebel fathers and the author, it would seem, that the Indians, civilized by the mild yoke of the Jesuits, begin to resist the military tyranny of their oppressors. If they eventually should prove masters of the interior, and narrow the limits of the Spanish territories to the sea-coast; those conquerors might easily

by the conquerors of Egypt be compelled to quit their hold on that delightful country. British possession and British missionaries might easily scatter the light of the Gospel amongst those benighted nations, and erect, under divine Providence, the standard of God and his Christ, where it was formerly raised to the Virgin. It is high time that men should think of these things, and let cutting of throats be suffered to skulk forgotten to the den from whence it came.

A.

VIII. TWO LETTERS *on the* COMMISSARIAT; *written to the Commissioners of Military Enquiry. By* HAVILLAND LE MESURIER, *Esq.* 8*vo. pp.* 109. 2*s. stitched.* 1806. Stockdale.

IT may not appear obvious to the general reader, that an active commissariat, is as essential to the existence and success of an army as an effective military staff; for though the occupations of each are so materially different, as to destroy comparison, it is well known that an army composed of *half-starved Englishmen* can never be so effective as one *well-fed*, hunger being generally known to have a greater effect on personal courage and activity, than the dread, if such a thing exist amongst Britons, of a vastly superior army. The one undermines the bodily powers of each individual, and is not under the controul of reasoning or example; the other can be subdued by both.

Mr. Le Mesurier's letters, however, are not written for the purpose of displaying his knowledge of the commissary department; though that appears to be both extensive and useful, as is occasionally proved in a remarkably modest manner, by his unvarnished relation; it is principally with a view to expose the bad effects of the plans usually followed by other persons in the same employ, and to complain of the small encouragement offered to men of ability, by the late system of management adopted in the offices at home. Instead of promoting officers properly trained in actual service, the more eligible situations have been given to persons slightly connected with the department; and the author having been, as he thinks, unjustly left out, he states his case to the public. If his complaints are true, and his narrative gives us little reason to doubt it, we think him to have been rather hardly treated, though it must be acknowledged to be a task rather difficult of decision, when we merely behold one side of the question.—We agree with him, however, most heartily, that the present is the period for adopting energetic measures; as our restless enemy from much experience has brought the organization of each of his military departments to such a pitch as to offer the best prospect of success. We trust, that his complaints will speedily meet with the attention they appear to merit.

C.

IX. *An* INVOCATION *to* TRUTH, *on a desirable event supposed to be near at hand. By* JOHN DUNCAN, D.D. *Rector of South Warmborough, Hants.* 8*vo.* 1*s. sewed.* Cadell and Davies.

THIS veteran in the cause of social order, and the peaceable and quiet fruits of the gospel, boldly draws a string at the overbearing and engulphing power of the rulers of the French nation; and though he may be said to have attained that period of life when patriarchs become prophets; though he has boldly predicted the downfal of the infidel power, we are sorry to observe, that though certain and sure, the speedy termination of its wild career is not yet at hand. No—nor can it be destroyed, till it has first destroyed the Romish church government, and

made an image in its place, whom it shall attempt, if not ultimately succeed, in compelling all the earth to worship, with a devotion not much inferior to that formerly avowed by the subjects of the Pope. We have revelation whereon to build our opinion, and were it proper to enter into the subject at large in this place, we are not certain but we could produce a series of reasons in its support, which would make even the most sceptical stagger. However, thus much let us hope, that as our native country was never, except a few days, under the complete dominion of the beast with seven heads and ten horns; and that, as there is a general similarity or reference in prophecy in general, let us, we repeat, encourage the cheering hope, that the beast whose horns were like a lamb, but who spake as a dragon, will never reduce our happy nation to that horrible state wherein he shall compel people to receive *his mark, or his name, or the number of his name*, in their *foreheads*, or in their *right hands*. Let us trust, that the shielding mercies of Divine Providence, which have so often and so visibly been interposed in our behalf, will still protect us from such a horrible calamity as that must necessarily be, which would compel us to worship the image of the beast to our discomfort on earth, and to our eternal damnation hereafter. Let the intelligent reader consider with reverence and awe the 13th and 14th chapters of the Revelations; from these let him turn his eye on the signs of the times, and let him deny, if he can, whether there be not a God which judgeth the earth.

We cannot dismiss the little work under consideration, without noticing the spirit and fire which animate the preliminary considerations. The Invocation to Truth is in verse, but it is far, in our humble opinion, inferior to the prose; and from the latter we shall give our readers a specimen of the fire of a good old age; it is certainly prophetic, but we are afraid that its completion is not yet at hand: it is needless to observe that the author speaks of the French government.

"What may we presume that "great purpose" to be? Dare we venture to foretel what such a prodigy of misrule may be suffered to become? No form of government, hitherto defineable, can we name as likely to suit it, at that "sum of things." An Imperial Sovereignty, unlimited by any known law, sound equity, or authoritative counsel, they now sorely, we hope, repentantly rue. For an Aristocracy, what chosen band of honorable and virtuous men can they find among them of dignity requisite to form or conduct it? Of a secure and peaceable republican establishment, can we imagine a crazed ungovernable multitude of thirty millions, broke loose from all control, by any means susceptible? They may possibly be soon transformed again into the hydra of many heads we late beheld them, darting rage against each other, and every one who presumes to have a soul or will of his own, independent of the incongruous junto. But I hear you call for a truce, or rather a close for ever of my political conjectures. Advanced beyond the period of life accorded to the devotees of dark speculation, to attain a semblance of prophetic strain, shall I not provoke your smile at a tremulous hand raised in defiance of the fiercest general reports, and subscribing a firm persuasion of heart, that you are speedily to hail our pious wish accomplished?"

X. *A Concise* HISTORY *of the present State of the* COMMERCE *of* GREAT BRITAIN. *Translated from the German of* CHARLES REINHARD, L.L.D. *of the University of Gottingen, with notes, and considerable additions relating to the principal British Manufactures. By* J. SAVAGE *Second edit.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. *bds.* 1805. Symonds.

THIS respectable little work, the former edition of which we noticed in our Number for December

1804, is now presented in a greatly improved state; the English editor, besides the notes with which he originally enriched it, having given a brief sketch of the principal British manufactures, and of the trade in them now carried on with the various countries who still remain friendly to their and our own interests. The articles mentioned are wool, cotton, leather, silk, linen, paper, earthenware, iron, copper and brass, hemp manufacture, glass, Birmingham ware, and engravings. The variety of useful details given under these heads will serve as a general remembrancer to those not unacquainted with the subject, and will form a useful introduction to the more elaborate works of Mr. Oddy and others; indeed, before perusing the latter work, we would recommend the student to peruse this with some attention, as it will give him a brief outline of his future excursions. Circumstanced as we are at present, and threatened with destruction by an implacable foe, we feel thankful for every hint which can prove serviceable to our country, either by pointing out new channels of trade, by throwing facilities in the way of the young merchant, or by animating him to extend his speculations from pole to pole. The little treatise under consideration aspires not to the first, but Dr. Reinhard's remarks will have the latter tendency, whilst the notes of Mr. Savage will have a tendency towards the other. The notes are interesting, and will prove extremely useful. L.

COLLECTANEA.—No. II.

KING CHARLES II.

IN a very curious and scarce pamphlet, entitled, "A Proper Memorial for the 29th of May," &c. &c. 8vo. Lond. 1715, printed for A. Bettesworth, his Majesty is described as having effected his escape from the rebels, after the battle of Worcester, in the following garb: "he had on a white steeple crowned hat, without any other lining besides grease, both sides of the brim so doubled up with handling that they looked like two spouts; a leather doublet full of holes, and almost black with grease about the sleeves, collar, and waist; an old green Woodriff's coat, thread bare, and patched in most places; with a pair of breeches of the same cloth, and in the same condition, the slops hanging down loose to the middle of the leg; hose and shoes of different parishes; the hose were grey stirrups, much darned and clouted, especially about the knees, under which he had a pair of flannel riding stockings of his own, the tops of them cut off. His shoes had been cobbled, being pieced both on the soles and seams, and the upper leathers so cut and slashed to fit them to his feet, that they were quite unfit to defend him either from water or dirt. This exotic and deformed dress, added to his short hair, cut off by the ears; his face coloured brown with walnut tree leaves; and a rough crooked thorn stick in his hand, had so metamorphosed him, that it was hard, even for those who had been before well acquainted with his person, and conversant with him, to have discovered who he was."

SKELTON, THE POET-LAUREAT.

His poems, says Dr. Farmer, are printed, 1736, with the title of "Pithy, Pleausant, and Profitable Works of Maister Skelton, Poete Laureate." But says Mr. Cibber, after several other writers, "How, or by what interest he was made laureat, or

whether it was a title he assumed to himself, cannot be determined." This is an error, pretty generally received, and it may be worth while to remove it.

A facetious author says somewhere, That a poet laureat, in the modern idea, is a gentleman, who hath an annual stipend for reminding us of the new year, and the birth-day: but formerly a poet laureat was a real University Graduate.

"Skelton wore laurell wreath,
And past in Schoels we know,"

says Churchyarde in the poem prefixed to his works. And Master Caxton in his preface to the Boke of Eneydos, 1490, hath a passage which well deserves to be quoted without abridgment: "I pray Mayster John Skelton late created Poete Laureate in the unyversite of Oxenforde, to oversee and correcte thys sayd booke, and taddresse and expowne whereas shall be founde faulte; to theym that shall require it; for hym I knowe for suffycyent to expowne and Englyshe every dyfficulte that is therein, for he hath late translated the Epystles of Tullye and the Book of Dyodorus Syculus, and diverse other workes, out of Latyn in Englysshe, not in rude and old langage, but in polyshed and ornate termes, craftily, as he that hath redde Vyrgyle, Ouyde, Tullye, and all the other noble poets and oratours, to me unknown: and also he hath redde the ix Muses, and understandes their musicalle scyences, and to whom of them eche scyence is approved: I suppose he hath dronken of Elycon's Well!!!" Skelton was rector of Diss, in Norfolk, and patronized by the Earl of Northumberland. He wrote against Wolsey. Erasmus styled him very strangely, "Britannicarum Literarum Lumen et Decus."

ERASMUS.

The violence and haughtiness of Luther disgusted the mild and moderate Erasmus, and alienated him from pursuing the plan of reformation, which at first he seemed to encourage and engage in. Luther represented him as an Arian and a time-server. "I thought," said Erasmus, "Luther's marriage would have softened him a little. It is hard for a man of my moderation and of my years to be obliged to write against a savage beast and a furious wild boar." But great revolutions and great reformations are not effected by calm and sober reason, nor without such violence as Luther possessed. When Voltaire was lamenting that Locke and Newton had few disciples in comparison of the numerous followers of Luther and Calvin, it was replied to him, "that without a Luther and Calvin, we should never have had a Locke or Newton."

CAXTON.

The first book known to be printed in English, and by Caxton is entitled "Recuyel of the Histories of Troye," which notwithstanding it was not printed in England, yet being printed by him, and abounding with information, has been called his first work. It was printed in 1471.

His next work was the "Game at Chess." The first edition has no cuts, but the second a few rude wooden ones. This was the first book printed in England; "Fynished the last day of Marche, the year of our Lord God, a thosaund foure hondred and LXXIIII."

BECHER.

He is the first chemical writer who excites notice. He collected all the facts which the Alchemists had discovered, arranged and reduced them to principles. He pointed out many important objects to which the researches of Chemists ought to be directed. His book called *Physica Subterranea*, published in 1669, forms an important æra in the History of Chemistry; for at that period it for ever escaped from the trammels of Alchemy, and became the rudiments

of that science which we find at present. Becher distinguished himself so highly by his chemical knowledge as to cause the names of all former theorists to be forgotten, after having laid the foundation of the famous system of Phlogiston. He died in 1682. Stahl, who was celebrated for his chemical knowledge, was one of his pupils.

OLIVER CROMWELL.

When Oliver Cromwell sat to Sir Peter Lely, he said to him while sitting, "Mr. Lely, I desire you would use all your skill to paint my picture truly like me, and not flatter me at all; but remark all these roughnesses, pimples, warts, and every thing as you see me, otherwise I will never pay one farthing for it."

This picture is now at Gisburn Hall, the seat of Lord Ribblesdale. On the canvas is painted the word *Noll**. It was brought from Calton Hall, and seems to have been Oliver's own present to General Lambert, who resided at the latter place.

VERSION OF THE PSALMS, BY STERNHOLD AND HOPKINS.

This musical Version of the Psalms was made after the model of Clement Marot, who, about the year 1570, hoped to have introduced a spirit of devotion into the court of Francis I. by substituting divine hymns, instead of "Chansons d'amour," among the ladies and nobility. And Thomas Sternhold, a native of Hampshire, and educated at Winchester college, hoped to do the same in the court of Edward VI. to whom he was a groom of the bedchamber. His coadjutor was John Hopkins, a schoolmaster in Suffolk, who translated fifty-eight of the Psalms; and another assistant was William Whyttingham, dean of Durham, who also versified the Decalogue, the Nicene, Apostolic, and Athanasian Creeds. And Thomas Norton, who joined with Lord Buckhurst, in writing the tragedy of Gorboduc, joined also in this work, and turned into metre, twenty-seven Psalms.

ALCHYMISTS.

The principal alchymists who flourished during the dark ages, and whose names deserve to be recorded, either on account of their discoveries, or of the influence which their writings and example had in determining the public taste, were Albertus Magnus, Roger Bacon, Arnoldus de Villa-nova, Raymond Lully, and the two Isaacs of Holland.

Albertus Magnus was a German. He was born in the year 1205, and died in 1280. His works are numerous; but the most curious of them is his tract, entitled *De Alchymia*, which contains a very distinct view of the state of Chemistry in the 13th century.

Roger Bacon was born in the county of Somerset, in England, in 1224. His merit is too well known to require any panegyric. The greater-number of his writings are exceedingly obscure, and even mystical; but he generally furnishes us with a key for their explanation. Some of them exhibit a wonderfully enlightened mind for the age in which he wrote. His tract *De Mirabili potestate Artis et Naturæ*, would have done honour to Lord Bacon himself.

Arnoldus de Villa-nova is believed to have been born in Provence, about the year 1240. His reputation was very high; but all of his writings are exceedingly obscure, and often unintelligible.

Raymond Lully was born at Barcelona in 1235. His writings are still more obscure than those of Arnold. The most celebrated of them is his "Last Will and Testament" which has been translated into English.

It is not known at what period the Isaacs of Holland lived, though it is supposed to have been in the 13th century.

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* Qu. Is not this word *Noll?*

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Literary Magazine.

SIR,

THE following account of a very rare, though not important book, is at your service, if you can find room for it in your interesting miscellany.

The title, if it may be so called, is in these words: "Here begynneth the holy lyfe and history of Saint Werburge, very fruteful for all christien people to rede."

The book is in small quarto, containing 112 double pages, very neatly printed in the black or old English letter; the colophon is in these words—"Thus endeth the lyfe and hystory of Saint Werburge. Imprinted by Richarde Pynson, printer to the Kynge's noble grace, with privilege to him graunted by our soueraygne lorde the Kinge. A°. M.D. xxj."

In the title page, and in several parts of the beginning, is a wooden cut of the saint seated at a desk, an angel at her left ear, and representations of the Trinity and the Virgin Mary over her; at her left hand the arms of Chester (the lion) under a coronet.

It is written in stanzas of seven lines each, of which the following may serve as a specimen, which is called "The Prologe of J. T. in the honour and laude of Saint Werburge, and to the prayse of the translatour of the legende folowynge."

"H onour, joye, and glorie, the toynes organicall,
E ndeless myrthes with melodies, prayse ye all the princes
N ourished in vertue, intact, as pure as cristall,
R elefe to all synners, O Werburge lady maistres,
I n grace thou passed all other, and in goodness.
When thou wast present in this mundayne life,
None was the lyke, wydowe, mayde, ne wyfe.

"B y divyne grace, to us a ryche present,
R ejoyce we may in Werburge one and all,
A gemme of vertue, a virgin resplendent,
D ilect of our lorde (in joye and blis eternall
S urely she is set) to intercede and call,
H er mouth not cessyng, for them to call and crye,
A nd in her trust, of synne to have mercy.

"O good lady maistres, declyne thy syght afer,
And graciously beholde thy servaunt chast and pure,
Henry Bradsha, sometime monke in Chester,
Whiche only for thy love toke the payne and labour
Thy legende to translate; he dyd his busy cure
Out of Latine, in Englishe rude ande vyle,
Which he hath amended with many an ornate style.

"Alas of Chestre, ye monkes have lost a treasure,
Henry Bradsha, the styrpe of eloquence;
Chestre, thou may wayle the deth of this flowre,
So may the citezens, alas for his absence,
So may many other, for lacke of his sentence.
O sweet Lady Werburge, an holy abbasse glorious,
Remembre Henry Bradsha, thy servant most gracious.

"In hym remayned no vice ne presumption,
Envy and wrath from him were exyled,
Slouth ne Venus in him had no dominion,
Avarice and glotony he utterly expelled,
No vice in hym reigned, his felowes he excelled.

As clene as crystall he bare these vertues thre,
Chastite, obidience, and wylfull poverte.

" O cruel dethe, whiche art the perfite ende
Of this noble clerke, and every mortal thyng,
Against the no man may hym defende,
Thou causest wo, languor, and anguissying,
And who on this wolde have remembryng,
How from erth to erth he must agayne,
He wolde dispise all thynges that be mundayne."

VALE.

From this it appears, that the legend of Saint Werburge was translated from the Latin into English by Henry Bradshaw, a monk of Chester, who is praised for his eloquence, and in whom was no vice; presumption, envy, and wrath; sloth, lust, avarice, and gluttony were unknown to him; but the virtues of chastity, obedience, and wilful poverty shone in his mind in their full lustre.

The legend of St. Werburgh is divided into two books, the first containing thirty-three chapters, and the second twenty-four; the contents of which relate the genealogy of St. Werburge, who was daughter of Wulfer king of Mercia, and Ermenile daughter of the king of Kent; of her being made a nun at Ely under St. Audry the abbess, of whose life there is a short account, and also of St. Sexburge, grandmother of St. Werburge. There is then related an account of divers miracles performed by St. Werburge, some of which are highly ludicrous; of her death at Trentam, and removal, by miracle, to Hambury, where her body continued uncorrupted for 200 years, till on the arrival of the Danes it fell to dust.

The second part contains an account of the founding of Chester; of the building of the abbey church there; the institution of secular canons; of various miracles performed at the shrine of St. Werburge; of the coming of William the Conqueror; of the founding of Chester monastery by Hugh Lupus. In the translator's prologue to this part, in the short conclusion to the readers, he modestly bids his work submit to the poets Chaucer, Lydgate, Barkley, and Skelton. The work then concludes with two or three " balades" addressed to the author, in one of which it is stated that the translat on of this book was made in the year 1513.

The 16th chapter of the first part contains a description of the great feast made by King Wulfer on his daughter Werburge taking the veil at Ely.

After enumerating the kings and queens present at this royal feast, the author says,

" All herbes and flowres fragraunt, fayre, and sweet,
Were strewed in halles, and layd under theyr fete."

He then describes the various paintings which ornamented the hall. Cloths of gold and arras, he says, were hanged in the hall, "depaynted with pyctures and hystorye manyfolde, well wrought and craftely."

"The story of Adam there was goodly wrought, and of his wyfe Eve, betweene them the serpent, how they were deceyved.—There was Cain and Abel offerynge their present; Tubal and Tubal Cain, the inventours of musyke and craftes.—Noe and his shyppe was made there, curyously sendinge forthe a raven, and howe the dove returned with a branche hastely.—Abraham there was standynge upon the mount playne, to offer in sacryfyce, Isaac his dere sone, and how the shepe for hym was offered in oblacyon."

After mentioning several other

scripture histories, which were here pourtrayed, he says,

"All these sayd storyes so rychly done and wrought,
Belongyng to Kyng Wulfer, again the time were brought."

He then describes the "goodly portrayture of our blessed lady, with the twelve apostles, ech one in his fygure, and the foure evangelystes, wrought moost curyously; also the dyscyples of Chryst in theyr degree, prechyng and techyng unto every nacyon."

Then followed, "The holy Innocents, blessed St. Stephen, St. Lawrence, St. Vyncent, and many more; Confessours freshely embrodered in rich tysshewe and fine; St. Nycholas, St. Benedycte and his convent; St. Jerom, Basylyus, and St. Augustine, Gregory, the great doctour, Ambrose, and St. Martyne, all these were set in goodly purrayture."

"Vyrgyns then followed, crowned with the lyly, amonge whome our lady cheyfe presydent was, some crowned with rooses for theyr vyctory, St. Katheryne, St. Margarete, St. Agathas, St. Cycyly, St. Agnes, St. Charytas, St. Lucye, St. Wenefryde, and St. Apolyn. All these were brothered, the clothes of golde within."

The tables were covered with cloths of diaper, richly enlarged with silver and gold. The cupboard with plate shining fair and clear, marshals their officers, "fulfilled manyfolde of myghty wyne plenty, both newe and olde, all manner of kynde; of meetes delycate, when grace was sayde to them, was preparate; and dyvers subtylties prepared sothly were with cordyall spyces, theyr gheystes for to chere. The joyfull wordes and swete communycatyon spoken at the table it were harde to tell. The great estates spake of theyr regyons, knyghtes of their chyvalry, of craftes the comons."

At the end of the book is a shield with Pynson's cypher, supported by two savages; the crest, on a helmet a demi-crane displayed, holding in its beak a fir branch with cones; at the sides, the virgin Mary and a female saint crowned, holding a palm branch and sword, and treading on a king. P.

Bishop Tanner has given an exact account of this poem, and a great encomium on its veracity. After being doubted that a printed copy was to be found, two were brought to light in the year 1773; one belonging to the late Mr. West passed into the hands of Mr. Gough, of Enfield, and the other, formerly the property of Mr. Thomas Martin, afterwards belonged to Mr. Herbert, the editor of Ames's Typographical Antiquities. There is at the present time a very handsome copy of this extremely rare book in the hands of Mr. Woodhouse, of Tokenhouse-yard.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.
J. S.

For the Literary Magazine.

WHEN many false reports have been raised against the Cow Pox, the following letters to Dr. Walker, from a nobleman who has all along taken the greatest interest in the discovery of Dr. Jenner, and still continues his zealous services in the cause of humanity, cannot fail to be worthy of notice.

"*Petworth, Nov.* 17, 1796.

"SIR,

"I shall be much obliged to you, if you will send me by the post to Petworth, as much matter as you can spare, as the small-pox has broke out in a parish (of cow-pox infidels) some miles from hence; has killed two of them, and has, as it always does, immediately converted all the survivors to vaccination; and they are pressing on me by 60 or 70 in a morning, to be vaccinated. Pray send it as soon as you can.

"I am, Sir, &c.
"EGREMONT."

"SIR,

"I am very much obliged to you for the vaccine matter, but will not trouble you for any more, as we are now well supplied. I wish the opposers of the cow-pox could see how little their arguments avail, when a death or two by the small-pox occurs. They are rushing from many miles round to be vaccinated, and already some hundreds have been placed in security, so that those two poor victims above alluded to have not died in vain.

"I am, Sir,
"Your most obedient
"And humble servant,
"EGREMONT."

For the Literary Magazine.

THE following letter at once shews the value and importance of the Life-boat:—

TO MR. GREATHEAD, INVENTOR OF THE LIFE-BOAT, SOUTH SHIELDS.

"*North Shields, 5th Jan.* 1806.

"SIR,

"During my stay at Memel, in the month of September, in the year 1805, an accident happened, which has contributed to spread the fame of the Life-boat far and wide among foreign nations. One afternoon a vessel was observed in the offing, apparently in distress; it then blew hard at west, and the sea was very high. She soon drifted on shore upon the sand, which runs off from the south point of the harbour, where the sea broke over her with great fury. As night was fast approaching, no time was to be lost. Mr. J. Johnson, commodore of pilots, instantly ordered the Life-boat to be manned; but to his surprise, not one of the pilots would go with him. Fortunately several English ships were at anchor at the lower part of the harbour, and two of the masters, with part of their crews, instantly offered their service, and the boat, steered by the commodore, soon proceeded towards the wreck. It was nearly dark when she reached it. As the vessel lay with her stern directly to windward, she could afford but little shelter to the boat; so that from the awkwardness of the landsmen and passengers on board the vessel, it was quite dark before they were all, to the number of fourteen, received into the boat. I had two sons in the boat, who afterwards expressed to me their satisfaction at the ease and security with which they waited for these poor people, in the midst of a sea where no other boat could have survived a moment. On leaving the wreck, then going fast to pieces, a most tremendous squall of wind and rain came on, before which they, in perfect safety, scudded into the harbour. Had not the Life-boat gone off when it did, the whole of the people thus preserved must have been lost in a few hours. On landing their freight, they found they had been instrumental in saving the lives of persons of distinction. The vessel was a cutter belonging to the Swedish navy, commanded by a lieutenant, and had on board a Swedish gentleman, chamberlain to the Queen of Sweden, and son to the Graaf Lawenheilm, a Swedish nobleman; he was bound on a mission to the court of Berlin, on the then situation of affairs in Europe. Both the count and lieutenant could speak English, the latter fluently, and they both expressed to me, next morning, the high sense they should ever entertain of the humanity and gallantry of the English, in risking their lives to preserve a set of people to whom they were entire strangers. They said they were struck with astonishment, when, in their hopeless situation, they beheld the Life-boat coming to their relief, and saw with what ease she set at defiance the combined fury of the boisterous elements. So much indeed were they struck with

admiration at the performance of the Life-boat, that they declared they would, on their return to Sweden, use all their interest to have them ordered by the Swedish Government.

"I am, Sir,
"Your humble servant,
"T. S. RICHMOND."

For the Literary Magazine.

SIR,

THE great attention paid to literary subjects in your valuable magazine, encourages me to hope, that the following account of a very curious work may find a place in its columns.

This curious work, which was purchased by Lord Lansdowne for a great sum, at the sale of the Pinelli library, is supposed to be the only copy now in existence; though there can be no doubt that Fenelon had seen the work, as the fable of his celebrated Telemachus is evidently founded upon it. It is an ancient Greek romance, printed at Florence in 1465, called *Athene Skelcate*. This title, which cannot be translated literally, is interpreted by the learned editor, Pietro Proso, to mean *Minerva calzonita;* which, however ludicrous it may seem, we can no better translate into English, than by the phrase *Minerva in breeches*. It was decorated with several engravings, of which only one now remains. It represents Mentor leaping after Telemachus, whom he has thrown into the sea from the rocks of the island of Calypso. This the learned commentator supposes to have been one of the western islands of Scotland, in which he is certainly warranted by the text, which states it to have been *far to the west, beyond the pillars of Hercules;* and though to some this may seem to apply better to the Canary Islands, yet the further statement, *that our travellers there found the days three times as long as the nights*, can only apply to the summer of a high northern latitude. This too accounts satisfactorily for the narrations handed down to us of the wanderings of Ulysses. It has always been justly considered absurd to suppose, that he could for ten years wander about the narrow seas of the Mediterranean, as in a labyrinth. But if we can suppose him to have been driven through the Straights into the wide Atlantic, there, indeed, being at best but an indifferent seaman, and unacquainted with the compass, his wanderings might be long enough. It is probable that the first land he made was one of the western islands of Scotland; from whence, not daring again to lose sight of land, he would have a most tedious coasting voyage back to the Mediterranean. What still further corroborates this opinion is a fact unknown, I believe, in the age of the learned editor, otherwise he would not have failed to avail himself of it. The Island of Calypso is described as having several grottos formed of natural pillars of stone, so regularly ranged, as to resemble the work of a skilful architect, but too vast to be a work of art, *unless*, says the romance, *they were fashioned by the hands of the giants*. Now there is nothing at all resembling this description in the Mediterranean, nor I believe in any part of the known world, except the Hebrides.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.
B * Y.

For the Literary Magazine.

ACCOUNT OF THE OPENING OF THE GREAT AQUEDUCT OF PONTCYSYLTE, LLANGOLLEN VALE.

THE General Committee of the Ellesmere Canal Company having thought it right that so extraordinary and magnificent a work should be opened with some cere-

mony, intimation was given of their intention; and Tuesday the 26th of November (being the day previous to the meeting of the half-yearly General Assembly) was fixed for that purpose.

The aqueduct of Pontcysylte passes over the river Dee, at the eastern extremity of the romantic and well-known vale of Llangollen. The aqueduct having been filled, the procession commenced. The Earl of Bridgewater's barge led the way, in the prow of which the serjeant-major of the Shropshire volunteers, in full uniform, carried a flag, on which which was painted a representation of the aqueduct, the Dee, and the valley, with the following inscription:

"Here conquer'd Nature owns Britannia's sway,
"While Ocean's realms, her matchless deeds display."

Next followed several members of the committee, and Mr. Telford, the projector of the aqueduct, and general agent to the Company, in Colonel Kynaston Powell's barge, carrying two union jacks.

In the third was the numerous band of the Shropshire volunteers, playing "God save the King," and other loyal airs.

The fourth boat was filled with numerous ladies and gentlemen, the agents, clerks, and the heads of the departments employed in the execution of the work, and decorated with a handsome flag, on which was inscribed,

"Success to the Iron Trade of Great Britain,
"Of which Pontcysylte Aqueduct is a specimen."

The fifth and sixth boats were filled with spectators, anxious to have the satisfaction of being among the first to pass the aqueduct.

As soon as the first barge entered the cast-iron water-way, which is 126 feet above the level of the river Dee, the artillery company of the Shropshire volunteers fired sixteen rounds from two brass field-pieces, which were taken at Seringapatam, and presented to that regiment by the Earl of Powis.

In the intervals of the discharge from the guns, the procession received the repeated acclamations of the numerous workmen, and a prodigious concourse of spectators.

As the barges entered the bason on the north end of the aqueduct, five waggons, drawn by one horse, and containing two tons of coal each, the produce of Mr. Hazledine's collieries at Plas-Kynaston, were brought along the iron rail-way, and deposited upon the wharf, in order to their being (with more which had been previously brought there) loaded into two boats, which had followed the procession for this purpose.

The company from the barges landed, and the Earl of Bridgewater, as chairman of the committee, conducted the ladies and their friends to a house belonging to the company, where they partook of a cold collation; after which Mr. Hunt, of Boreaton, one of the committee, delivered an eloquent and impressive oration, explaining the origin and object of the work.

The procession returned in the same order as it came; the two boats laden with coals following the procession, the first having a handsome flag, with an inscription,—

"This is the first trading-boat which passed the great Aqueduct of Pontcysylte, loaded from Plas-Kynaston Collieries, on the 29th day of November, 1805."

Inscription upon the side of the pier next to the south side of the river:—

The Nobility and Gentry of
The adjacent Counties,
Having united their efforts with
The great commercial interest of this
Country, in creating an intercourse
and union between
ENGLAND and NORTH WALES,

By a navigable communication of the three Rivers,
SEVERN, DEE, AND MERSEY,
For the mutual benefit of Agriculture and Trade,
Caused the first stone of this Aqueduct of
PONTCYSYLTE
To be laid on the 25th day of July, 1795,
When Richard Myddelton, of Chirk, Esq. M.P.
One of the original patrons of the
ELLESMERE CANAL
Was Lord of the Manor,
And in the reign of our Sovereign
GEORGE THE THIRD,
When the Equity of the Laws, and
The Security of Property,
Promoted the general welfare of the nation,
While the Arts and Sciences flourished by his patronage, and
The conduct of civil life was improved by his example.
The navigation over this aqueduct was opened 29th November, 1805.

DIMENSIONS.

	Ft.	In.
Length of the iron work	1007	0
Height from the surface of the rock, on the south side of the river to the top of the side-plates - - - -	126	8
Breadth of the water-way, within the iron work - -	11	10
Number of stone pillars, besides abutments, 18		
Distance of ditto from each other at the top - -	45	0
Depth of the iron plates, for Canal part - - -	5	3
Length of the earthen embankment, south side of the river	1503	8
Height of ditto at the south abutment - - -	75	0

Thomas Telford was the Engineer.
Matthew Davidson superintended the work.
John Simpson executed the Masonry.
William Hazledine the Iron Work.
William Davies, the earthen embankment.

To the Editor of the Literary Magazine.

SIR,

HAVING seen my name used in an unwarrantable manner, as far as relates to language, in Dr. Rowley's late publication against the Cow-Pock, I am induced to trouble you with the following remarks, conceiving it my duty to the public, not to let that work pass unnoticed and without animadversion, so far as concerns myself.

The various rumours to the discredit of that valuable discovery, the Cow-Pock, so prevalent within a few months, are well known to have in a great measure originated with the gentleman above-named, and with another who has seldom, except in the present instance, written but to inform and to please. With the latter I have nothing to do; but as the former has made me party to conclusions never drawn by me, I shall merely state the following particulars, and my present opinions in vindication.

The doctor, in his treatise entitled "Cow-Pock Inoculation no security against Small-Pox Infection," has given a plate, representing what he pleases to call a cow-poxed ox-faced boy, a term every way as destitute of decency as the reality is of truth. I saw the boy whose portrait Dr. Rowley has given, in company with that gentleman and some medical friends, and formed, as well as the rest, a conclusion totally different from him; in short, it was a mere scrophulous enlargement of the upper cheek bone, in a constitution most assuredly scrophulous, as was, independently of this and other appearances, fully demonstrated by being conjoined with a scrophulous enlargement of the elbow joint. This opinion was also hinted by the gentlemen present to Dr. Rowley, but he pertinaciously ascribed the whole mischief to the cow-pock, which the rest of the company were no way disposed to admit. That he had had formerly the vaccine pock is true, but the general opinion of all present was, that the mischief under which he then laboured could have no necessary connexion with it, and there was no necessity to hunt into the

annals of vaccination to account for the enlarged cheek bone.

The swelling of the elbow was particularly pressed on Dr. R.'s attention, but it produced no effect; and he offers the whole as a *fair* objection against the cow-pock, as the *melancholy* result of vaccination.

The doctor also dwells much on certain eruptions, which, in all the instances I saw, were the result of scanty food, dirt, and filthiness; and some of which were observed at least three years previously to, and some time after the children were vaccinated: a similar regimen appeared to have produced similar effects on all, without the slightest necessity for attributing the eruptions to the cow-pock.

One case of failure which is brought forward with some *eclat* was at any rate of a dubious nature, and was most probably an irritated one of chicken-pox; and two children inoculated with the matter from the pustules, shewed no subsequent marks of infection.

I had vaccinated two of my own children as early as convenient, and thinking that there might be no harm in subjecting them to an *experimentum crucis*, I therefore inoculated them with genuine small-pock matter: the punctures slightly inflamed till the third or fourth day, and then died away—an incontrovertible proof that the matter was not destitute of activity, and also of the preventive power of the cow-pock. I also inoculated some other children with small-pox matter, which produced similar results.

Instead, therefore, of being held forth as an objector to vaccination, I here unequivocally declare my full belief in its efficacy, as a protection against that horrible scourge the small-pox, whose baleful influence, during the last few months, fills me with fresh dread at its loathsome and destructive ravages.

Before concluding, I am led to regret the acrimony and prejudice wherewith the oppugners of cow-pock on the one hand, and its supporters on the other, have carried forward their remarks on each others views and opinions. Truth will certainly prevail; but at any rate it argues no great respect for the feelings of the public, which at this moment supplicate as it were the directing hand of the medical world, that prejudice and acrimony are allowed to usurp the place of candid observation. The people wish to be informed, not their feelings to be spoken to; let them, then, know what patient and unprejudiced observation teaches ourselves; we owe them more than all we can do for their confidence, and it is more than murder to trample on the feelings, the hopes, and the fears of parents, besides being a disgrace to those who treat them thus wantonly.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

RICHARD REECE, M.D.

Henrietta-street, Jan. 18, 1806.

BIOGRAPHY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

HISTORICAL MEMOIR OF THE LIFE AND WORKS OF KLOPSTOCK: WITH REMARKS ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE EPIC POEM.

FREDERIC GOTTLIEB KLOPSTOCK was born at Quedlinbourg, July 2, 1724. His early education presented nothing peculiarly remarkable, nor is it very material, it being the nature, and not the kind of it, which produces great men. He was first educated in the country, under the tuition of a private tutor immediately under the inspection of his father, who at that time superintended the administration of the Prussian domain of

Friedbourg; and at the age of thirteen years old, was sent to the college of Quedlinbourg, when he gave himself up almost entirely, according to the custom of the place, to the study of ancient languages. From this college he proceeded in 1740, to the *Schul-forte*, a place of instruction in high estimation, both for the merit of its professors, and for the excellence of the methods of instruction employed in it; here he pursued the same studies, and began to feel and to manifest that irresistible attraction for poetry, which he obeyed with so much success during his life. He passed five years at this establishment; and he ever after entertained a thankful remembrance of the pleasure which he enjoyed; and as a proof of his affection and esteem he presented it fifty years afterwards with a complete collection of his works. From this place he went to Jena, where he remained about a year, occupied with the study of Theology, which he afterwards went to Leipsic for the purpose of continuing; but where he became more of a poet than a theologian. It was here that he signalised the commencement of his career, by the bold step of composing an epic poem in a language, and in a kind of verse, both till then unattempted; by publishing the three first books of his Messiah, which appeared in 1748, in a Journal, printed at Zurich. These verses quickly ensured him the admiration of his countrymen, and led them to hope that Germany had given birth to another Homer.

If the epopee were a kind of poetry, entirely independant of the circumstances, which appear to have given origin to the best of its models, the little success of the trials, made in imitation of the Iliad and Odyssey during thirty centuries, would lead one to regard an epic poem, as the utmost effort, and the most sublime conception, of which the human mind is capable: but if, as it seems, the terms, the places, the opinions of nations, and their political institutions civil and domestic, necessarily have their influence on such works; if the perfection of the poem depends in a great measure, on the happy combination of these different elements, and the harmony which reigns between the thoughts of the poem, and the opinions of its contemporaries; we shall feel little other astonishment than that so many fine geniuses should be so obstinately bent on imitating what must under such circumstances be inimitable, and to invoke muses and gods, long since forgotten, to prop up the fabrics of the marvellous, who would no longer obey them. These muses therefore, and these gods, and these marvellous events; the singer, and the people who were ravished at his performances, and the varied machinery of the antique epic, ought all to be consigned to the same tomb.

The Romans, who were, however, near neighbours to the Greeks, and who retained their political system, till it ended in their subjugation, or slavery; no less rigidly adhered to their sensual and empassioned religion, of which the poets were both the teachers and the apostles: yet they did not belong to the heroic era of the genuine epopee. They entered, as into a foreign country, and never dared to step beyond their models; the poet was no longer the arbiter of the people's belief, and they were compelled to conform to the philosophical principles and the religious creed, which the ancient founders had disposed at their pleasure. The all powerful muse of Homer yields herself with difficulty to the invocations of the Latins; and the ashes of Ilion scarcely rekindled, inspire even the genius of Virgil, with cold imitation, although the Eneid is almost every where filled with inimitable beauties.

How shall the moderns then suc-

ceed, who are so far withdrawn from antique simplicity, brought up under other systems of civilization, placed under a religion, grave and inflexible, and who must either be reduced to avail themselves of allegories, which offer such miserable resources, or of magic, altogether puerile, and credited by none? Tasso has equally laid all under contribution; he avails himself by turns, both of the Christian Religion, and the Pagan superstitions; he substitutes modern allegories for the sacred ones of antiquity; and not being able to restrain himself from frequently paying the classic gods, the homage of certain furtive remembrances; he has constructed a poem, constituted like ourselves, of heterogeneous elements, in the stead of that simple and uniform faith which united the priest of the gods to his auditors. Thus a string of concessions which the learned reader readily makes to the poet; a kind of indulgent agreement procures to the mind a series of pleasures, in which the heart rarely participates: and those venerable works which once made part of the institutions of nations, become reduced to amiable fictions that afford us amusement.

It was fortunate for Tasso, that he sought for his subject in a time, sufficiently ancient and sufficiently obscure, to justify the employment of the language and machinery of epic poetry to a certain degree. Every age may have its heroes, but for the perfection of the epopea, it is necessary that the obscure horizon which envelopes them should be no ways enlightened by history. It was vain for Alexander to envy the poetic glory of Achilles; he who affords employment for the pen of Quintus Curtius cannot have a Homer. Voltaire selected the subject of his poetry from amongst us, and Henry is a hero, whilst the events are no less worthy of memory, than the characters are brilliant; but history intrudes on the whole. This breaks the whole enchantment, and though we every where admire the beauty of the poetry; we read his admirable verses without emotion, and the good king of Sully draws us in spite of Voltaire and ourselves, from the hero of the Henriade.

Whilst the epopea of the Greeks has thus perished under the hands of the moderns; another Aristarchus has given the world the popular traditions of Scotland, and has renovated the rhapsodies of another Homer. Two Erse poems made their appearance in a translation, the originals of which were long called for, without the possibility of even obtaining a fragment; and truly Ossian reproduced entirely on the faith of Mr. Macpherson was an object meriting all our attention. We behold with admiration the delineation of the characters of the ancient Caledonians, amongst which the chivalric elevation, the sentimental melancholy, and all the refined delicacies of the mind and the heart, develope themselves spontaneously in the bosom of the savage, previously to the existence of religious ideas: we behold too with surprise in Fingal and Temora, romance aggrandised, ameliorated, and re-united to poetry, in all her brilliance and majesty; a re-union of both, which exists amongst no people at the same epoch, and which have not been created by the same genius, and therefore leads us to doubt, whether these poems be of the era to which they profess to belong. However, whatever epoch they may belong to, or whoever be their author or authors, of the many beauties with which they abound, epic poetry will rarely find a superior model than is offered by them.

If in forming our ideas of the epic, we include the grandeur of the subject, the importance of the events, the elevation of the characters, and the extraordinary nature of the ac-

tion, it will quickly appear that there is only one way left for the moderns to pursue in order to restore it to its ancient dignity; a way, thorny and perilous, and which should alone be entered on by genius of the most sublime and enterprising turn. It was from the sacred historians, from the revelations of the divine will, it was into the sanctuary of the Divine Being himself, that these geniuses, bold even to temerity, dared even to enter to bring down subjects worthy the religious veneration of christians.

Milton opened the career, and no one in his sublimest flights ever soared higher; the creation of the universe, the fall of the first man, the expulsion of the rebel angels form the subject of his episodes. Klopstock followed him, and was equally hardy in the choice of his subject. An incarnate God, a God dying by the hand of those for whom he poured forth his blood, the Messiah, in a word, the ineffable mystery of the redemption chilled not his genius with holy dread: he seized the harp of the prophets, and drew forth from it, sounds not unworthy of themselves.

It is necessary to be remarked, that both Milton and Klopstock belonged to the protestant church; and that Gesner, who elevated the pastoral to the boundaries of the epic poetry, was also of the same communion. They all belonged to christian societies, where the liberty of interpretation is not reputed subsersive of the christian faith. The severe orthodoxy of the church of Rome is hostile to the flights of imagination, when employed on these subjects; and therefore few of these essays have gone without the blame of rigid Roman Catholics.

It is not my province to examine under this point of view, the productions which are really original, and stamped with the impression of creative genius; and I shall not be less careful of avoiding the fault fallen into by the pious son of Racine, who pursues the errors of a puritanic poet, with such a degree of earnestness and seriousness as commonly renders his criticisms ridiculous. Milton ought to be judged on his own ground, and before the tribunal of literature he is no more to be condemned for having discarded the principles of the Romish church than Homer is for having differed occasionally from the theogony of Hesiod. In like manner Klopstock ought to be at liberty to give the eternal Father a kind of confidant, to admit the plurality of worlds, to place good men on some planet betwixt the earth and the heavens, to borrow ministering angels from the Judaic code, for the purpose of governing different parts of the universe. But it may be permitted us to enquire, whether the bases of the subjects made choice of by both poets come purposely within the sphere of epic poetry; whether their grandeur be not rather calculated to overwhelm, than to elevate our minds; in short, whether genuine poetic interest can have existence in a series of events, which succeed each other ordered and consummated by irresistible power directed by irresistible prescience.

We must acknowledge, however, that the moderns have exceeded the limits, both in this and many other cases, which have been defined so sagaciously by the ancients. With Homer, exquisite taste is every where apparent in his inventions; all is wonderful, his gods more especially; they are employed every where, and like men they are beings, tormented with similar passions, subjected to the same failings; they appear rather to be accomplices than masters*, and their imperfections are

* It may admit of doubt, whether this be an excellence; it is pretty, but it always, in our opinion, conveys a sensa-

correspondent with the interest which they excite. Fate rules over them all with a hand not less irresistible than over us; and, enveloped in that impenetrable mystery which surrounds the councils of the greatest gods, she interferes not in the debates of either gods or mortals; she listens not to their invocations; nothing can shake her immutable justice: and Jupiter himself submits to her mandates without a murmur, when he beholds the golden scales, charged with the destinies of heaven and earth.

In modern times, with the English poet more especially, what a difference do we behold, what an inconceivable abuse of divine intervention! No secondary power, but the All Powerful himself in person, is introduced into action; he discovers himself, he acts, and how? he speaks, he reasons, he commences his revelation, and explains his own mysteries. Overwhelmed all at once, with the presence of the Judge supreme, and by the manifestation of his unalterable will; we are not long pleased with so much admiration, and so much dread; we fly the radiant residence of purity incorruptible, and enter with satisfaction the circle of our habitual affections, for the purpose of contemplating beings swayed by the same happiness and misery as ourselves, and to find once more amongst them, emotions to which we are accustomed, whose passions we can understand, in whose feelings we can participate. We even fly to regions of woe in search of passions, which excite sympathy in our own souls; and though we loathe, yet we follow with scrutinizing solitude the enemy of mankind; his tortures excite our pity, his unalterable constancy produces admiration: and Milton has only succeeded by making Satan the hero of his piece. [*To be continued.*]

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tion, the reverse of dignified, when we read of fighting and wounded gods and goddesses, particularly when they are wounded by mortals. The gods who keep out of the scrape are certainly the most respectable. E.

THE NEW PATENTS.

Mr. Isaac Hawkin's, *of Glossop, for an Invention applicable to Musical Instruments, the Principles of which are also designed to be applied to various other Machinery.* [*Dated November* 13, 1800.]

THIS invention is described as follows:

1st. Metallic elastic strings are to be made, by wire being turned into a spiral, curved, serpentine, or crooked form, or made with links like a chain, to produce a bass sound, and occupy a much shorter space than is usual.

These strings are also intended to be applied as bands, either single, or two or more sewed side by side, into a piece of cloth, leather, or other substance, for turning lathes, and all other machinery where bands are used for the turning of wheels, &c.

These elastic strings are also designed to be fixed to saddles and stirrup straps, to render them elastic, and thereby hinder the jolting of horses from affecting the riders. It is likewise intended to combine a number of these elastic strings together, and apply them to coaches, and all other carriages where springs are used.

2d. Gut or silk, or other strings, are to be rendered water-proof, by being impregnated with drying oils; or gums or other drying substances dissolved in oils or other menstrua, designed to resist the action of the atmosphere, by which strings are

frequently put out of tune. These water-proof strings are to be applied to all musical instruments where they can be used.

3d. The strings of piano fortes, and all other finger-keyed instruments, to be fixed in a perpendicular, or nearly perpendicular position, extending from about three or four feet high to within a few inches of the floor. The object of this is to make piano fortes, &c. in a more elegant and convenient shape than any heretofore made.

4th. One end of each string, of all stringed musical instruments, is to be connected with a spring; or a fuzee or lever, to which a spring is fixed, so that the spring shall act with equal force or weight on the string when it contracts or expands.

It is intended to apply this principle, with a little variation, to the equallizing of any irregular power, such as the action of winds, or other irregular power, upon machinery: the spring in this case will be a barrel spring. The irregular power is to act upon the spring to wind it up, while the spring spends its force regularly, or at pleasure, on the movements it is designed to work.

5th. For the purpose of tuning the strings of musical instruments, there are to be sliding frames or carriages, each worked by a screw, in a frame of metal, to which frame or carriage a string is attached. In this also, which may be termed the primary, are one or more secondary sliding frames or carriages; to each of which a string is attached, worked also by a screw in the primary carriage, so that two, three, or more strings may be stretched at the same time, by turning the screw of the primary carriage; and they may be put in tune, one with the other, by turning the screws of the secondary carriages.

6th. There is to be attached to harps and all other instruments where it will apply, a roller, worked by a pedal or pedals, having pins or other projections, acting upon levers, which press on any of the strings at the pleasure of the performer, in order to vary the tones by shortening their vibrating part.

7th. There is also to be affixed to instruments from which the tones are produced by hammers, a roller, made to turn with considerable velocity, having projecting parts, to strike either immediately or mediately by levers, on the tail of the hammer, to make the hammer continue striking the strings so long as the finger-key is kept down. This may be called the Poiotonic stop.

8th. It is intended to make piano fortes, harps, violins, and indeed all musical-stringed instruments, without any box or hollow space under the sound-board, or board which vibrates from the motion of the strings, or, in other words, the sound-board is to be exposed on both sides.

9th. It is designed to draw a lengthened tone from a string or bell, or other vibrating body, by the revolution of a hoop or ring; on the inside of which hairs are stretched, in equal chords of the circle, intersecting each other, forming a regular polygonic elastic surface of hair.

10. In all instruments where the tone is produced by hammers striking strings or bells, or other bodies, gradually at the pleasure of the performer, by a pedal or otherwise, pieces of leather, or other substances, the parts of which are of different degrees of density, thickness, or hardness, so as gradually to vary the tone from loud to soft, or *vice versâ* by the hammers striking through the medium of the hard, soft, thick, or thin parts of the said pieces.

11th. The frame which contains the finger-keys of piano fortes, organs, &c. is to turn on pivots or axes, to shut up, so as to contract the space which the instrument occupies when not in use.

12th. A piece of machinery, worked with a pedal, is to be at-

tached to a stand on which a music-book is placed, to turn over the leaves at pleasure, while the hands are employed otherwise. This may be done several ways; but as the thing is entirely new, the inventor claims it in every possible manner in which it can be done, of which the following plan is one: viz. A number of pieces of metal, or other substance, turning on an axis, nearly under or over where the back of the book is put. Each of these pieces has a long arm, with a forked end, taking hold of a leaf of the book; and a short one, to which a wire is fixed, communicating with the pedal. When the pedal is pressed down it turns the short arm, by means of the wire, and thereby the long arm, which carries the leaf with it. The pedal then disengages itself, and communicates with the arm holding the next leaf, so that there may be so many leaves turned over as there are arms turning on their axes.

Mr. BENJAMIN BATLEY'S, *of Queen-street, London, for a Method of refining Sugars.* [*Dated July* 8, 1805.]

This invention consists in a new and improved method of refining sugars with milk, and the process is performed in the following manner: First charge the sugar-pans with the usual quantity of lime-water: and for each ton weight of sugar to be refined allow at the rate of ten gallons of skimmed milk, (more or less, as may be necessary, according to the quality of the sugar.) Mix five gallons of such milk with the lime-water, then skim the sugar, and, after the sugar is skimmed, let it remain till the next morning, when the whole, so mixed, is to be stirred together; and, after taking off the first scum of the sugar, add more skimmed milk, and continue to repeat the same, after the first scum of the sugar, until the liquor is perfectly cleared.

Mr. ALEXANDER WILSON'S, *of Titchborne-street, London, for certain Improvements, applicable to Shot Belts, Powder Flasks, and Fire Arms, of all descriptions.* [*Dated July* 3, 1805.]

The advantages to be derived from these improved breechings or plugs are, that they have an interior metal touchhole, placed in a peculiar manner, behind the centre of the charge, projecting into the chamber, in the form of a cone, and thereby preventing the shot from lodging, so as to make the gun miss or hang fire: the touchhole also communicates with the powder in the pan, through the anti-chamber, which is so constructed, that in damp weather the gun cannot miss or hang fire. The inside of the breeching which contains the charge, is nearly of the shape of an egg, and so constructed as to permit the powder to remain always loose. It is easier cleaned, and has the advantage of lighting the powder much quicker, and in a more perfect manner than any breeching heretofore used. The locks of a double gun are nearer together than any hitherto made, which renders it more convenient to cock the left lock. The exterior part of the breeching being sloped in an obtuse angular direction, conducts the eye quicker to the object, and makes the priming in the pan tend more to the anti-chamber. Guns on this new principle are much stronger than others; they will throw the shot more regularly, with greater velocity, and are not so liable to lead or lose their shooting.

The jaws of the cock hold the flint in an oblique direction, which gives it more friction, increases the quantity of fire, and throws the fire close up to the touch-hole. The web of the pan is rounded, which prevents the powder from lodging, so as to disjoint the hammers. The pan is easier cleaned, the priming al-

ways kept dry, and the pan not liable to lose it.

The rest for rifles does not exceed two inches in length and one ounce in weight, may be used standing, or in any other position. A very heavy gun may be elevated or depressed with one hand at pleasure, and at the same time kept perfectly steady.

The head of the shot belt is so constructed as to contain various quantities of shot, is filled with accuracy, without loss of time or hazard in spilling, and always contains a charge, as occasion may require, ready to load with. This improvement upon the shotbelt is equally applicable to the powder flask.

Mr. M. Gregson's, *of Liverpool, for a Method of cleansing Feathers for Beds, and Hair, Woad, Down, &c. from their animal Oils, in such a way as to render them more healthful and pleasant for use.* [*Dated December* 4, 1804.]

This invention consists in placing the feathers, hair, wool, down, or other natural covering of birds and animals, in a vessel, or other proper receptacle, closed on all sides, except at that part, where the heat, or heated elastic fluid, is to be introduced; and also at another part, where the exhalations of animal oil, and other impurity, are suffered to pass out. The feathers, &c. are then disposed thinly and lightly in the said vessel, by means of shelves, sticks, or other supports, if needful, in such manner that the said heat, or heated elastic fluid, may be duly applied to all and every part and portion thereof.

Secondly, Steam, or heated air, is passed through an aperture, by means of pipes or flues, into the said vessel, so as to give sufficient heat to the contents thereof, in order to evaporate and drive off the offensive animal oil through another aperture in the vessel; and this is continued a sufficient time till the intended effect is completed.

Mr. Stephen Clubbe's, *of Colchester, for an improved Mangle.* [*Dated September* 7, 1805.]

The various excellencies of this mangle are hid under the simplicity of its principle; but it may not be amiss to point out two or three of them:—

First, It is observed by mechanics, that time and power cannot increase together, for as one increases the other diminishes; but with respect to the patent mangles, when compared with others, they will be found to gain double motion by the same power; for as the lower part or roller moves by the resisting power of the upper one, there must be double motion.

Secondly, As the weight is constantly on the linen, from the time it is introduced into the mangle until delivered out, the mangling must certainly be executed faster than if the linen were to be worked off one roller on to another, as in mangles of the usual construction.

Thirdly, The weight used in the patent mangle is little more than half the weight required in other mangles, consequently a little more than half the labour or power employed in other mangles will be necessary to set these to work.

Mr. B. R. Dodd's, *of Change-alley, for various improvements in the Construction of Fire-Places.* [*Dated April* 18, 1804.]

These improvements are thus described:—The throat or opening of the chimney may be constructed at pleasure, by plates of iron or registers in the usual way; but where a larger aperture may be required, it can be extended, and a part thereof at each side may be made to lift up at pleasure, in the manner of a register.—The reflectors used in the improved

fire-places should be moveable, or made to slide horizontally in grooves or on rollers, which will permit them to open at different angles and at various distances from the grate. They may be fixed on hinges or otherwise, vertically, to the back of the fire-place, or they may be united to the sides of the stove or grate.—The reflectors may be made either of one entire piece, or separated in the centre or elsewhere, as may be judged the most convenient; and they might be so constructed as to slide into a recess formed in the wall, or contrived so as to slide out, or turn completely round, by which either side may be presented to the fire, one of which only might be polished and the other japanned.—In some cases it might be useful to make the reflectors in the manner of a fire-screen, to stand upon legs.

Mr. Dodd has also added an extinguisher, or metal case, so formed as to completely inclose the grate or stove with the fire, which will, when put on, exclude the air, and thereby speedily smother or put out the fire without removing the heated cinders, creating any dust or trouble whatever, and will also save the coals in the grate at the time of extinguishing the fire.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

THE meetings of this society commenced, after the summer vacation, on Thursday Nov. 7, the Hon. Mr. Greville in the chair. The business of the season opened, as usual, with the Croonian lecture, by Mr. Carlisle, *on the Power and particular Structure of the Muscles of Fishes.* The excellence of Mr. Carlisle's former lecture on muscular motion awakened curiosity; and if in the present he has been less successful, it is perhaps rather owing to the more limited nature of his subject, than to the want of original observations and experiments. After several minute physiological explanations of the nature and peculiar structure of the muscles of fishes, and their invariable insertion in fleshy instead of tendinous matter, the author proceeded to detail his experiments on their power and particular use, in enabling the animal to move with so much rapidity through a fluid so dense as water. He ascertained that the muscles of the sides and tail are solely those by means of which the fish advances; that the pectoral and abdominal fins serve only to raise or lower, and balance it in the water; and that deprived of these muscles, and again put into water, it remained at the bottom without being able to ascend, but with the power of advancing as before. By cutting off the pectoral and abdominal fins of one side, the fish lost the power of balancing itself upright, fell on its side, and advanced slowly. He accounted for what is vulgarly called drowning in fishes, when caught by the angler's hook, from the very great violence with which they at that time strike the water, and consequent prostration of strength in the muscles, that they fall on their side or back, and appear as if drowned. The effect would be the same if the hook was placed in any other part of the body as well as the mouth; exhaustion, and not suffocation being the cause.

On the 14th, the reading of this interesting paper was concluded. The fluids of fishes coagulate at about 160° of Fahrenheit.

On the same evening was read the Bakerian lecture on the *Force of Percussion*, by Dr. Wollaston, secretary of the society. The nature of mathematical discussions renders analysis extremely difficult, although

Dr. Wollaston's lecture possesses the rare merit of brevity and perspicuity. The hitherto undefined, and perhaps undefinable force of animal power, has long exercised the ingenuity of mathematicians, and Dr. Wollaston has wisely contented himself with following Smeaton on that subject. His illustration of the force of percussion, however, and of accelerated motion, he conceives to be somewhat novel, and to contain something overlooked by his predecessors; it has certainly much simplicity.

The thirtieth of November, being St. Andrew's day, the Royal Society held their anniversary meeting at their apartments in Somerset-place, where Sir Godfrey Copley's gold medal was presented to Humphrey Davy, Esq. for his various communications published in the Philosophical Transactions. Afterwards, the society proceeded to the choice of the council and officers for the ensuing year; when, on examining the ballots, it appeared that the following gentlemen were elected of the council.

Of the Old Council.—The Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, K.B. Sir Charles Blagdon, Knt. Henry Cavendish, Esq. Davies Giddy, Esq. Edward Whitaker Gray, M.D. the Right Hon. Charles Greville, William Marsden, Esq. Rev. Nevil Maskelyne, D.D. George Earl of Morton, Samuel Horsley Lord Bishop of St. Asaph, and William Hyde Wollaston, M.D.

Of the New Council.—Mr. John Abernethy, George Earl of Egremont, George Trenchard Goodenough, Esq. Hon. Robert Fulk Greville, Philip Metcalfe, Esq. Matthew Montague, Esq. Lieutenant-Colonel William Mudge, John Townley, Esq. William Charles Wells, M.D. Thomas Young, M.D.

The officers were—The Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, president; William Marsden, Esq. treasurer; Edward Whitaker Gray, M.D. and William Hyde Wollaston, M.D. Secretaries.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

The meetings of this society took place on the same evening and hour immediately preceding that of the Royal. On the first night was exhibited a bronze bas-relief of a boy riding on a dolphin, with a head somewhat depressed resembling that of a bird. This curious and highly interesting piece of antiquity was found at Colchester, but the discoverer could give no satisfactory account of its nature or use. He supposed it to have been one of the *Dii Penates* or *Lares*, and that it represented Cupid, the god of love, in one of the various characters in which the ancients adored that powerful deity. Were we permitted an observation different from these learned antiquaries, we would pronounce it not a Cupid but a *Bacchus seated on a dolphin*, the head of which is depressed, indicating the descent of the jolly god *ad inferos*, which, according to the modern system of explaining mythology, was emblematic of the sun's setting apparently in the sea. This figure is supposed to have been adopted by the Greeks from the inhabitants of the north-west, which they called *Skiros*, where their Cimmerian Tartarus was placed. The discovery of this bronze bas-relief will, we hope, lead to more accurate knowledge of the northern mythology.

On the 14th, the several silver coins of Edward III. and two Roman copper coins (one of Claudius) were exhibited. The latter were found in the bed of the Thames, opposite Sion-house, near Kew. Two drawings of paintings discovered in repairing the walls of St. Stephen's chapel, Westminster, were also displayed. They are about three feet by two, and consist of several persons around a table in one compart-

ment; in the other, of three female figures with an *aureola* indicative of their saintship. Both the male and female countenances have the air of Normans; perhaps the painter may have been of that country.

On the 21st, this society was occupied with the election of a member of its council.

FRENCH NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

The class of physical and mathematical science proposes for the subject of a prize, which it will adjudge in the public sitting of the first Monday in Messidor, in the year 15, the following question, which it remits to the meeting, viz. To determine by observations, and by anatomical and chemical experiments, what are the phænomena of the torpor which certain animals, such as marmots and dormice, undergo during winter, with respect to the circulation of their blood, their respiration, and their irritability: also to inquire what are the causes of this sleep, and why it is peculiar to those animals.

It is required that a precise detail be given of the ordinary temperature of these animals, of the degree of cold necessary for their torpor, of the natural temperature which they retain during their lethargy, of the time which is necessary for them to resume their natural temperament when they awake; of the quickness of their pulse during the two states; of the quantity of oxygen which they consume in a given time, both in their quick and torpid state; of the profoundness of their torpor, both with respect to their sensibility and to their simple muscular irritability: finally, of the colour and the chemical state of their blood.

The proposers of the prize do not require that the experiments be made on all dormant animals; only that they be made with strictness on the kinds most easy to be procured.

The prize will be a kilogramme of gold (about 3,400 francs). The memorials sent for competition must be remitted to the secretaryship of the Institute before the first Germinal of the year 15.

Conditions of the Competition.

All persons, excepting the members of the Institute, are admitted to the competition.

No work that is sent to the competition is to bear the name of the author, but only a sentence or device.

It is allowed, if the writers choose, to attach a separate and sealed note, which shall inclose, besides the motto or device, the name and address of the author. This note is not to be opened unless the piece obtain the prize. The works destined for competition may be sent to the office of the secretary, franking the packet which contains them. The clerk of the secretaryship will give receipts for them. They may also be addressed, carriage paid, to the perpetual secretaries of the physical and mathematical sciences.

The competitors are informed, that the Institute will not return any of the works which shall have been sent to the competition. The authors shall have liberty to take copies of them, if they have occasion. The administrative commission of the Institute will deliver the gold medal to the bearer of the receipt. In case there shall have been no receipt taken, the medal will not be sent but to the author himself, or to the bearer whom he shall employ.

ADVERSARIA:

Literary, Philosophical, and Miscellaneous.

LITERARY.

PROPOSALS have been issued for publishing by subscription, a translation of "Illustrations of the Theory and Principles of Taste, considered as they are applicable to the

Fine Arts in general, and to the various species of Literary Composition in particular," by ELIZABETH ANNABELLA DE BRUSASQUE. The original, which was written in German by Sultzer, has long been held in high estimation in Germany, both for the profundity with which it is composed, and the perspicuity and accurate knowledge of the subject possessed by the author. It will form one volume octavo.

A new edition of Essays and Letters on important and interesting subjects, by JULIANA YOUNG, author of a commentary on the Bible, &c. is in the press, and will extend to two volumes.

Earl NELSON has given notice, that he has selected a gentleman of high respectability, for the purpose of writing, under his sanction, an authenticated life of his illustrious relative; and further states, that to this gentleman, and to him alone, all the official and private documents of which he is in possession, will be communicated, for the completion of the work; in the prosecution of which he has been promised the assistance of those high naval and military public characters, who either were intimately acquainted with the transactions of the times, or who acted under Lord Nelson, in those engagements wherein he immortalised his own name, and rendered such important services to his country.

A new and splendid edition of Pope's Homer's Illiad, in six volumes octavo, highly ornamented with engravings, after designs by some of our most eminent artists, is nearly ready for publication: it will be followed by his translation of the Odyssey, on the same plan.

A Journey through the countries of Mysore, Cannara, and Malabar, performed by FRANCIS BUCHANAN, M.D. of the Bengal Medical Establishment, under the orders of the Most Noble the Marquis Wellesley, Governor-General of India; for the express purpose of investigating the state of agriculture, arts, and commerce, the religion, manners, and customs, the history natural and civil, and antiquities in the dominions of the Rajah of Mysore, and the countries acquired by the Hon. East India Company, in the late and former wars, from Tippoo Sultaun; will shortly appear under the authority and patronage of the East India Company. It will extend to three volumes quarto, and will be illustrated with a map and other engravings.

Mr. OLINTHUS GREGORY, of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, has, besides his extensive treatise on mechanics, the third edition of his Lessons Astronomical and Philosophical, for the amusement and instruction of the British youth, in the press.

Dr. BEAUFORT has in the press, and will publish early in the ensuing spring, Travels through the various Provinces of Ireland; containing a complete and comprehensive view of the present state of that part of the British empire, political, economical, statistical, agricultural, and commercial. It will form two volumes quarto, and include several maps and ornamental engravings.

Brigade-Major REIDE has completed the ninth edition of his valuable treatise on the duty of infantry officers, and an elucidation of the present system of military discipline. He has also lately published a ninth edition of his treatise on military finance, which details many official documents relative to the pay and allowances of the British army.

Dr. STEUART, of Coltness, will shortly publish an elegant edition, extending to two quarto volumes, of the Works of Sallust. To which are prefixed, two essays on the life, literary character, and writings of the historian; with notes historical, biographical, and critical. It will, besides a translation of the historian,

include an illustration of the civil, and in particular the literary history of the age of Augustus, and of that which immediately preceded it; with a head of Sallust, taken from an antique bust in the Farnese palace at Rome, the only one existing: and other plates.

Mr. DERRICK, of the Navy-office, has in the press, and will shortly publish, in one volume quarto, a work entitled, Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy, from the beginning of the reign of Henry the Seventh to November 1805. Dedicated by permission to the Right Honorable Charles Lord Barham.

The glorious victory of Cape Trafalgar has very properly been made the subject of a prize poem by the university of Oxford.

The Poems of THOMAS ROMNEY ROBINSON, an interesting boy, who resides at Belfast, and has just completed his twelfth year, will shortly be published in one volume octavo.

Mr. JOHN LANDSEER, engraver to his Majesty, and Lecturer on Engraving at the Royal Institution, has been elected an associate engraver of the Royal Academy, by a large majority.

Mr. J. C. SAUNDERS will shortly publish, in one volume quarto, an Illustration of the Anatomy of the Human Ear, accompanied by views of that organ, as large as nature.

Mr. THOMAS PEAT, portrait-painter, proposes to publish by subscription a Treatise on Colours and Colouring, containing a detail of the analysis of colours in general, explaining the defects of some, and essential parts of others; with directions for preparation and use both in oil and water.

Mr. PRINCE HOARE has been employed for some time in collecting materials for a general History of the Fine Arts; and has already published, as preparatory to his grand design, an Essay on National Cultivation of the Arts of Design, principally applicable to the circumstances of the present state of the arts in England.

Mr. KIDD proposes publishing a new edition of Homer, with collations of many manuscripts never before examined.

Mr. BIGLAND has nearly ready for publication, Letters on Natural History, exhibiting a view of the wisdom and goodness of the Deity, so eminently displayed in the formation of the world, and the relations of utility that inferior beings have to the human species. It is calculated particularly for the use of young persons, and will be illustrated by upwards of 100 engraved subjects.

Mr. R. WRIGHT, of Wisbeach, has ready for the press an Apology for Servetus; including an account of his life, persecution, writings, and opinions; designed to eradicate bigotry and uncharitableness, and to promote christian liberality.

Dr. DAVIS, of Sheffield, is translating Pinel's Treatise on Insanity, a work that has attained great celebrity throughout France.

Mr. VANMILDERT is printing his sermons at Boyle's Lecture, and they will appear in the course of the spring.

The Proverbs of Ali, with a Latin translation and notes, by Cornelius Van Waener, are printing at the Clarendon press, in a quarto volume. Mr. MOUSLEY, of Baliol College, is the editor.

Mr. EDMONSTON, author of a treatise on the Egyptian Ophthalmia, will shortly publish an Inquiry into the contagious nature of Ophthalmia; with a history of the symptoms and treatment of ocular inflammation in general.

Sir WILLIAM FORBES is employed in an elaborate account of the Life of Dr. Beattie.

Mr. JOHN HUNT, author of Historical Surgery, proposes to publish Anatomical Speculations on the Form of Animals, and on the

new opinions of the celebrated Mr. Cline.

Dr. HENDERSON is preparing for the press a translation, with additional notes, of M. Cabanis' valuable work, entitled Coup d'Œil sur les Révolutions et sur la Reforme de la Medecine.

A translation of the Travels of Goede, the last who has written on the subject since Archenholz, is in a state of forwardness: the work has excited great interest on the continent.

The Rev. JOB ORTON's Letters, announced some time ago in our pages, have been found to be more extensive than was at first supposed. They will, with his life, extend to two volumes, instead of one as at first proposed, and will shortly appear.

A novel from the pen of Madame GENLIS, entitled Alphonsine, or Maternal Affection, is in the press, and will shortly appear.

A work, entitled Thoughts on the relative state of Great Britain and of France at the close of Mr. Pitt's life and administration, is nearly ready for publication.

Mr. LEWIS, author of the Monk, will shortly publish a tragedy, in five acts, entitled Adelgitha, or the Fruits of a single Error.

Mrs. NORRIS will immediately publish by subscription a novel, under the title of the Strangers.

ROBERT WATSON WADE, Esq. M.R.I.A. has nearly completed a Translation of the "Tratado Historico sobre el Origen y progresos de la Comedia y del Histrionesmo en Espana by Don Cosiano Pelicer;" and it will shortly appear.

At the anniversary meeting of the Highland Society of Scotland, Sir JOHN SINCLAIR laid on the table the printed sheets of a large proportion of the poems of Ossian, in the *original Gaelic*, with a Latin translation; the whole of which work would be completed in the space of two or three months. The publication of these poems in Gaelic will not only remove the doubts which have been entertained regarding the authenticity of them, but will also tend to excite a greater desire, than has lately prevailed, to be acquainted with Gaelic literature, with the music by which the Gaelic poetry was generally accompanied, and with the language which contains those ancient effusions of natural feeling and genius.

At the same meeting the society instructed the directors to take under their consideration the most effectual means of collecting and of preserving what yet remains of Gaelic literature and music; and also to take such steps as may seem most advisable for the preparing and publishing a Gaelic dictionary; that as such measures must necessarily be attended with a very considerable expence, a general subscription for defraying the same be set on foot among the members of the society, and other friends of literature, both at home and abroad; and to promote these laudable purposes, the directors were authorized to subscribe one hundred guineas in the name of the society.

The gentlemen in Waterford and its vicinity have, we understand, in contemplation, a plan for forming an establishment in that city similar to the Royal and London Institutions, in the metropolis of the British empire. The friends of science will be glad to learn the success of any plan for the promotion of knowledge, which may eventually tend to ameliorate the condition of the inhabitants of that fine, but distressed country.

Mr. JENKINS, printer of the Cambrian Gazette at Swansea, proposes to give a gold medal, value twenty guineas, for the best poetical effusion on the Death of Lord Nelson; and a silver medal for the second best production.

Dr. SMITH's Prizes for the two

best proficients in mathematicks and natural philosophy, in the university of Cambridge, were adjudged last week, after the usual examination, the first to J. F. Pollock, Esq. of Trinity-college; and the second to William Walter, Esq. of St. John's college.

PHILOSOPHICAL.

M. GRATIEN LEPERE, of Cherbourg, having made a series of experiments on the schistose productions of that neighbourhood, gives the following as his results:—1. That the ferruginous, bituminous, and aluminous schisti of Haineville, and most probably of every other place, after being burned like limestone, and properly pulverised, possessed all the properties of the natural pouzzuolane.—2. That the pouzzolani, and all other volcanic earths, are generally schisti, having undergone the action of volcanic fire, and that the schisti may be properly denominated *artificial pouzzuolane stones*. This property of the schisti was not unknown, M. St. Fond having mentioned it in his Mineralogie des Volcans as far back as 1778; but the experiments of M. Lepere have brought it forward more publicly than heretofore.

The following is recommended in the Annales des Arts, as an advantageous mode of giving the blue temper to iron and polished steel:—On an iron plate, place a few heaps of the tanner's bark after it has been thrown out of the tan-pit, and cover them with powdered charcoal, in a state of ignition. As soon as the bark has pretty well caught fire, the pieces of metal to be subjected to the operation are placed upon it, taking care that the heat be uniformly maintained to the same degree, because if it become too strong the process will be entirely spoiled. If one side of the metal become too hot it must be turned on the other, or the whole so placed that the heat shall be as equable as possible. When it has attained the desired colour, it must be removed, and after being suffered to cool slowly, it must be wiped with a dry linen cloth. This method will be found applicable to sword blades, to buttons, or any convenient thing of the kind. The blue colour will remain a long time, subject however to tarnish; but this may be speedily removed by cleaning the metal, and renewing the above process.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Indians, on the North American frontier, are advancing, many of them with spirit, and others beginning to engage in the pursuits of agriculture and household manufacture. They are becoming sensible that the earth yields subsistence with less labour than the forest; and find it their interest, from time to time, to dispose of parts of their surplus and waste lands for the means of improving those they occupy, and of subsisting their families while they are preparing their farms. The Northern tribes, the Chickasaws and Cherokees, have recently sold considerable tracts of land to the American government, which by these purchases has completed the possession of the whole of both banks of the Ohio, from its source to near its mouth. The purchase from the Creek Indians has been for sometime particularly interesting to the state of Georgia.

The President of the United States of America, in his late message to Congress, thus speaks of the yellow fever:—"In the course of the several visitations of this disease, it has appeared that it is strictly local, incident to cities and on the tide water only; incommunicable in the country either by persons under the disease, or by goods carried from diseased places; that its access is with the autumn, and it disappears with the early frosts. These restric-

tions, within narrow limits of time and space, give security even to our maritime cities during three fourths of the year, and in the country always. Much real injury has, however, been sustained from a propensity to identify with this endemic, and to call by the same name fevers of very different kinds, which have been known at all times and in all countries, and never have been placed among those deemed contagious."

In the assembly-room of the Packet hotel at Milford Haven is a full length picture of Lord Nelson, painted by Leonardus Guzzardi, at Naples, in 1799, which was a present from Sir William Hamilton. It is a perfect likeness of the deceased, who sat many times to the artist, whose talent in the performance is eminently displayed. The picture has the following motto in large Italian capitals:—"Milord Orazio Nelson, erva del secol nostro, a niuno sécondo, forte, invetto, tenore de rebelli, destruttore degli empi, defensor de re, a tutti caro, questa, cittade, e il regno, l'ama, loda, ed ammira." "Lord Horatio Nelson, hero of the age, surpassed by none, strong, unconquered, a terror to the rebellious, destroyer of the perverse, defender of kings, dear to all, this city and the whole kingdom love, praise, and admire him."

At a half-yearly Court of the Small-pox and Inoculation Hospitals, it was stated by Dr. Joseph Adams, Physician to that Institution, that the small-pox has for some months past been more epidemic and fatal throughout the metropolis than at any period since 1796, and that the universal extension of vaccination might, under Divine Providence, have prevented the calamity, which its general reception has very much lessened. It appears from the returns made to this court, that all the departments of the institution have been extensively occupied during the last year, in which it has given relief to 3761 patients; it also appears, that the number vaccinated at the hospital, within the last twelve months, has nearly equalled those who have been inoculated.

The Leverian Museum, the scheme for the disposal of which we sometime ago announced to our readers, is at length to be brought under the hammer, in May next, unless previously disposed off by private contract. It will be a shame to the naturalists of this country should they suffer such a valuable collection to be dispersed, scattered, or destroyed as it inevitably must, in case of such a mode of disposal being put in practice. The example of the French, so little worthy of being followed in common, is highly creditable to themselves with respect to the bustle regarding science raised by the literati, wherever the cause of knowledge is concerned; and though they may not always be in condition to become purchasers, they frequently stimulate their government to make up the deficiency. If our naturalists are unable to purchase this valuable monument of Sir Ashton Lever's industry and skill, their representations to parliament would undoubtedly produce the desired effect:—But, when exertion is every day becoming more and more necessary, we are sorry to observe the old adage, "Every body's business is nobody's," so strongly exemplified as is at present the case.

The new East-India College at Hertford is now ready for the students. The candidates for admission are expected to be well grounded in arithmetic, and qualified to be examined in Cæsar and Virgil, the Greek Testament and Xenophon. The vacations and times for examination, Christmas and Midsummer. No student will be admitted who is under fifteen years of age. This institution, is said, will in a few years supersede the necessity of the College at Calcutta. We humbly beg

leave to dissent from this, as we are of opinion, that stock-jobbing can best be learned at the Stock-Exchange; but the Sanscrit language, &c.&c.&c. can only be truly learned among the natives of Hindostan.

A most curious document of religious history has been given to the world from Dr. Ashbury, Bishop of the Methodist Church in America. It relates to the increase of that religious sect within 38 years. It announces that in the United States and Canada, 120,000 persons were in their fellowship, and that one million attended their ministry, so as to include a seventh part of the whole population of the United States. It has in America, 400 travelling preachers, and 2000 local ones.

Several months ago Captain Lewis, in America, undertook to ascend the river Missouri, in search of a passage to the South Sea. Very interesting intelligence may be soon expected from this expedition.

M. Lartigue having been engaged for thirty years in constructing, at the marine depôt of Paris, a large and beautiful map of America in relief, has at length completed it. It is said, that the mountains and the islands, and the tints of the sea, are all exhibited in a manner most capable of interesting those who make geography their study.

A large sum has been subscribed by the Garrison of Gibraltar, for the purpose of erecting on the rock a naval pillar, as a tribute of affection and respect to the memory of the late Lord Nelson.

The Common Council of London have resolved to erect a monument in the Guildhall of that city to the memory of Mr. Pitt.

The principal inhabitants of Glasgow propose to erect a statue in that city to the memory of Mr. Pitt.

The Vaccine Institution in Broad-street, Golden-square, proposes to allow five guineas to every patient who may have the small-pox after having been inoculated for the cow-pock at that institution.

FOREIGN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

M. Regnier, a machine constructor, has lately invented a meridian, which may be placed, if thought desirable, in the window of an apartment, and which will strike the mid-day on a bell. It is constructed in such a manner, that it may safely remain in the open air without being opened, and its mechanism, though small, will give motion to a hammer sufficiently large, to strike the mid-day on a large bell; and it may consequently be employed in the country parish churches. The mechanism consists in a contrivance on a quarter circle, which contains a loop, and a plate of bronze in the plane of the meridian, provided with a black hair, which, when it is broken, lets slip the bell hammer, so as to perform its office. When the sun's rays fall on the hair, it crisps and breaks; and a weaker ray than one sufficient to fix the shadow of the style on a solar quadrant is found to answer the purpose. It will answer indiscriminately for any country.

GERMANY.

The celebrated Abbé Sestini having made a tour of Germany, is at length arrived at Charlottenburg, and has laboured incessantly at his grand work on Numismatic Geography, now composing in twelve folio volumes. This work, which is still in manuscript, will give a description of the important antique medals, and of all the collections of medals in Europe, whether public or private. During his residence at

Gotha, the learned Schlichtergroll, keeper of the ducal cabinet, afforded him all the facilities in his power towards profiting by the riches it contains. He has had engravings taken at his own expence of many Greek medals, extremely interesting to the geographer, and proposes publishing them in the ninth volume of his *Lettere e dissertazioni Numismatiche*, about to make its appearance at Berlin. Of the eight former volumes in quarto, four have appeared at Livourne, the fifth at Rome, and the three last at Berlin. Besides these works, the learned abbé has published some of his peregrinations in Asia, in which he displays great knowledge of botany.

Mr. Lecke, a commissary of justice at Iserlohn, has published in the *Freymüthige*, the result of the warm water plan in gout, as proposed by Cadet-de-Vaux, the which we think must out-Sangrado our own countryman Dr. Kinglake *in toto!* His lady was seized with a fit of the gout immediately after the termination of her *accouchement*, at the age of 28; the first she had appearing under similar circumstances four years before. Forty-eight glasses of warm water, hot as she could drink it, were administered to her in twelve hours, each glass equal to two ordinary Saxony coffee-cups. The first effect was a continual and profuse perspiration, but in other respects there was little or no alteration, the pain being as violent as ever. At six in the evening, her physician gave her a potion of his own preparing which relieved her, and a repetition of it took away her pain. Nevertheless, eight days afterwards, the disease returned, accompanied with a horrible dry cough, and wandering pain in the chest and neck. These symptoms proved difficult to remove, and it was only after many weeks of diligence in medical regimen that she became tolerably well.

We have often been altogether at a loss to ascertain the necessity for cold affusion, cold internal drenching or internal washing in this formidable complaint. Almost every physician knows that the perspiratory vessels offer only feeble means of carrying off the disease; but few seem to be aware that the mucous membrane of the bowels affords a means both prompt and efficacious of removing it altogether, whether retrocedent, repulsed, or whether it be what it will, distinctions of no use in practice. A slighted, because ill given, remedy, in common use, will effect all that can be desired, when administered properly.

Whilst all the Germans are disputing most furiously on the merits of Dr. Gall's Craniology, he has left Hamburgh for Copenhagen. He did not lecture at Hamburgh, but at Gottingen he was well received, and admitted a member of the Royal Society of Sciences at that place.

Mr. Henry Louis de Lechmen, principal of Bischoffswerda, in Saxony, has deposited a hundred rix-dollars, in bank-notes, at the College of Health at Dresden, to be given to the one of the medical people of Saxony who shall prove to have vaccinated the greatest number of people, from the 19th of May, 1805, to the same month in 1807. Those who wish to take advantage of this prize are requested to send a list to the college, containing an account of the individuals vaccinated, as also a detail of their treatment. It must also contain the name, surname, the age, the residence, as also the names and condition of their parents, together with the day on which they were vaccinated. The successful candidate is expected to bring certificates of the truth of his statement from the police of the place where he resides. The prize will be awarded at the latest in the month of June, 1807.

Mr. George Voss, bookseller, at Leipsig, has lately announced an ex-

cellent copy of two engravings from designs by Isabers representing the Emperor and Empress of the French in the grand costume of their coronation, for which there was a demand for more than 80,000 copies in the space of a week.

M. Oegg, ci-devant vicar of the cathedral of Wurtzbourg, has announced an invention, by which all sorts of mills may be advantageously put in motion, without the aid of running water; and proffers to put it in practice, if the Bavarian government will grant him the exclusive privilege of constructing it for twenty years.

HOLLAND.

Holland can at present boast of several societies, whose principal object is the improvement of the Dutch language, and who propose prizes from time to time relative to the fine arts. Of this kind is one at the Hague, entitled *Digt-lievende Genootschap*, or Society of Amateurs of Poetry, instituted in 1789. Another is established at Rotterdam, *Digt-en Letter-lievende Genootschap*, Society of Amateurs of Poetry and Belles Lettres, with the following device *Studium, Scientiarum Genetrix.* A third at Leyden is *Taaben digt-lievende Genootschap*, Society of Belles Lettres and Poetry. A fourth at Amsterdam, *Digt-en Letter-lievende Genootschap*, Society for Poetry and the Belles-Lettres, founded in 1780. And a fifth at Gouda, *Kamer der Rhetorykers*, the Chamber of Rhetoricians, originally founded in 1437, and reformed in 1785.

PRUSSIA.

The Cow-pock is making great progress in Prussia. A medal, worth fifty gold ducats, has been struck by the government, to be conferred on those who distinguish themselves in promoting the application of this useful discovery. On one side is a head of the king, with the inscription, *Fredericus Gulielmus Rex, Pater Patriæ.* On the reverse is a cow, with the goddess of health, with the motto, *In te suprema salus*, and round the edge, *Vaccinationis premium.*

RUSSIA.

Count Besborodko, the brother of the prince and chancellor of that name, has come to the resolution of establishing a college of the first order *(Gymnasium Illustre)* at Naeschew, and has also demanded permission of the emperor to proceed in his undertaking. This has not only been granted, but his patriotic zeal has also been rewarded by the order of St. Wladimir.

The celebrated Doctor Franck has taken up his residence at Petersburgh, and the whole medical concerns of the empire are placed under his superintendance.

The geography and ancient history of Taurida, and of the coasts of the North Sea, have been materially improved since that country came into the possession of the Russians. M. Koehler, who has lately paid it a visit, by order and at the charge of the government, will speedily publish his discoveries, of which he has already given a specimen, by printing, at Petersburgh, "A Dissertation on the Monument of Queen *Comosary*," a small volume in 8vo. enriched with engravings of eleven Greek inscriptions, and three medals. The monument of this queen, whose existence was unknown even to men of letters, was discovered by Koehler, and consists of a pedestal containing an inscription, and two statues, both of which want the head. It seems that it was placed on a small hill, from which it was thrown down at least a century ago, it being found at its foot, on the borders of the lake Temruk, not far from Phonogody. The learned antiquary will no doubt give us a design of it in the large work he intends publishing; and what is more important than the monument itself is, that it proves, though coeval with Alexander, that it was executed by Greeks, and on the very spot where

it was found, because it is composed of a species of stone, a native in the country. The inscription informs us, that Comosary was the daughter of Gorgyppus, and wife of Persidas, king of the Sindi, Mæoti, and likewise chief or Archon of the Bosphorus and Theodosia. He succeeded his brother Spartacus III. and reigned about the fourth year of the one hundred and seventh olympiad. The inscription also informs us, that the two statues were consecrated, by Comosary, to two divinities unknown both to the Greeks and us, *Anerges* and *Astara*. M. Koehler endeavours to prove them of Syro-Chaldean origin, and derives them from the names *Nerges* and Astaroth. If so, they represent the sun and the moon; but Comosary has given them forms and costumes entirely Greek. In the dissertation, M. Koehler enters into disquisitions on the office of Archon, and on the government of these countries till the time of the Romans. Of the three medals, one is of Theodosius, and two of Gorgyppia. This little book is offered to the public attention, by way of inviting that of antiquaries to his great work on the subject. It only contains 84 pages.

It may be remarked as a curious circumstance, that the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem should have increased, in Russia, to upwards of one thousand, more we believe than ever existed of the same knights of all the other nations. The great families in Russia having almost all some one of their family a knight, are partisans of the order. They therefore take infinite interest in Malta; and hence the desire they have always shewn of having possession of that island. The facilities for building ships, and establishing a navy, afforded by the forests bordering on the Black Sea, are principal inducements with Russia to have a station in the Mediterranean, where their fleets, after passing through the Dardanelles, could rendezvous or refit. The commerce in the ports of the Black Sea is already becoming extremely important, and is likely to increase annually in interest: but without some central station in the Mediterranean it can never be carried on with the same spirit and effect. From a station like Malta, therefore, Russia could derive the most essential advantages; and the desire to possess it, which has by some been attributed to whim on the part of that government, is, on the contrary, founded on the most rational principles of commercial improvement.

SWEDEN.

The university of Griesswalde, in Swedish Pomerania, has taken advantage of its extensive revenues to found several new and useful establishments, by which the whole province will be materially benefited. The principal ones are a lying-in hospital, a veterinary school, a nursery, and plantation of exotic trees. They have also instituted six new prizes, of 50 ducats each, three of which are to be offered to Swedes, the other to Germans.

THE FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

AT the annual meeting of the Royal Academicians, at Somerset-house, the following prizes were delivered to the respective candidates, who excelled in painting, drawing, modelling, &c. A proceeding rather unusual took place on this occasion; the prizes have previously been delivered in the lecture-room of the Academy; this year they were distributed in the

Council-chamber, and none but candidates and students were permitted to be present. The business commenced by the president, Henry Fuseli, Esq. informing the auditory, that he had been deputed by the academicians to reward the candidates with the prizes according to their respective merits, and he trusted they would continue to cultivate the arts, and preserve the preference they had obtained.

The competitors for the best painting were Mr. Guest and Mr. Harrison, and the subject designated was *The Death of Patroclus*. In the production of Mr. Guest, the friend of Achilles, dead, and stripped of his armour, is borne off the field by soldiers. Mr. H. has delineated the dead hero lying in a cave, where the light is admitted through an aperture at the top; the friends of the fallen warrior are weeping over the body, and the whole group assume an appearance suitable to the solemnity of the scene. As these paintings are probationary, produced to shew the rising abilities of the young artists, it would be unfair to criticise. It is enough to say, they both possessed merit; but the gold medal was awarded to Mr. Guest, who received it from the president with the usual compliments. The prize, a gold medal for the best figures in *basso relievo*, was gained by Mr. Tolmarsh. The subject in modelling was *The Chaining of Prometheus to Caucasus*. It was meritoriously executed by two candidates; the preference was, however, given to Mr. Bubb, pupil to Mr. Rossi, and he obtained a silver medal.

The prizes for the best architectural drawings were awarded to Mr. Kennant, and Mr. Eames, both of whom obtained a silver medal. The best drawings from the Academy Figure were produced by Mr. Hoppner and Mr. Noel: those gentlemen consequently obtained the prize, a silver medal each.

After the distribution of the prizes, the president addressed the students, &c. and pointed out several rules necessary to be adopted for the improvement of their studies; and the meeting ended.

The president of the Royal Academy having lately resigned his seat, so honorably filled for a long series of years, we present our readers with his address to the general Assembly of Academicians on that occasion.

GENTLEMEN,

I am now the only survivor of the four artists, who, in the year 1768, had the honour of presenting to his Majesty a plan for an academy, which being graciously received and sanctioned by the king, was carried into effect under his royal command. The first members were named and created by his Majesty, and their choice of Sir Joshua Reynolds, as president, added splendor to the institution.

After the death of that eminent master, whose distinguished talents have rendered so much honour to his name and country, without solicitation on my part, the academy unanimously elected me to the chair, and his Majesty was graciously pleased to sanction their choice. I have now, during a period of fourteen years, endeavoured assiduously to perform the duties of that distinguished situation to the best of my abilities, and I have a consolation in reflecting, that I have rendered some aid to its formation, and contributed every thing in my power to its prosperity.

Thirty-seven years are nearly completed, during which time I have never failed to exhibit my works in the Royal Academy; but whatever may have been my exertions, or whatever my wishes for the welfare of the institution, the occurrences which took place on the 10th of December last, and subsequent circumstances, have determined me to withdraw myself from the situation

of President of the Royal Academy. I shall retire to the peaceful pursuits of my profession; and I hope that my present declaration will afford you sufficient time to consider of the choice of my successor by the 10th instant.

In relinquishing the honour of this most respectable situation, I beg leave to express the deep sense I entertain for the benefits conferred on this society by our august founder and patron, and an humble hope of the continuance of his benign regard for this his favoured institution.

I shall ever consider the Royal Academy as an establishment, from which this country may, and ought to derive all those advantages which flow from the successful cultivation of its three branches of art: it will be my constant prayer, that this may be the happy result; and that the fame of Great Britain in arts may correspond with its elevated character in the list of nations.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient,
Humble servant,
Dec. 2, 1805. BENJ. WEST.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

At a sitting of this society, a resolution has been passed for commemorating, in the Great Room of the Institution, the character and achievements of Lord Nelson. The paintings which occupy the walls of that room are well known to the public, and are ranked among the noblest productions of modern genius. The artist by whom they were executed has been applied to, on the part of the society, and is to introduce among those groupes of distinguished characters an appropriate representation of the Victor of Trafalgar. This manner of commemoration is worthy of much praise. The general intention of the paintings is to celebrate the men who have been principally eminent in arts and in arms; and by a society directed particularly to the promotion of the arts and commerce of England; an art not the least favoured among the objects of its patronage, is devoted with peculiar felicity to a character, who, amidst illustrious competition on all sides, has contributed prominently to establish our empire on the ocean, and to confirm the security, and enlarge the dominion of our commerce. It will not, indeed, be the boast of this tribute, that it can contend in expence with the numerous monuments about to be erected to the memory of our departed hero; for the liberal zeal of the artist inserts the addition as a gratuitous offering of genius and admiration; but the merit of the execution is not likely to be surpassed, and the association of this illustrious commander with those who have been chiefly eminent in the past annals of mankind, introduced into a production which commemorates them with a spirit and elevation worthy of the subject, is a form of celebration ingeniously just and interesting.

Mr. DRUMMOND has circulated proposals for publishing by subscription an historical print, from his large painting of the Death of Lord Nelson, now exhibiting at his house in Church-street, Soho. It will be engraved in mezzotinto by Clint, whose taste and excellence have been more than proved by some of his late prints in that department of engraving.

Mr. BOWYER has circulated proposals for publishing by subscription a whole length portrait of Mr. Pitt, engraved by Bromley from the celebrated painting in the Trinity-house.

The superb and valuable collection of Italian, French, Flemish, and Dutch Pictures, belonging to the late Welbore Ellis Agar, Esq. will be sold early in May.

POETRY, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

ON HEARING THE MUFFLED BELLS ON THE DAY OF LORD NELSON'S FUNERAL.

HARK! listen to yon muffled bells! how well
Th' alternate round with joy and sorrow tell
How NELSON conquer'd—and how NELSON fell!

Now the full peals in merry numbers sound,
The swelling gales with harmony abound,
And waft the notes of triumph to the world around.

Alas! these cheering sounds now die away,
The muffled dirge succeeds the festive lay,
And solemn knells proclaim departing day.

Yes! the mix'd peals our chequer'd fortune tell,
That NELSON conquer'd—but that NELSON fell;
They sound a Nation's triumph, and a Hero's knell.

And thus, as the alternate numbers flow,
Each heart shall vibrate and each visage show
The smile of vict'ry, and the tear of woe!

THE SAILOR'S ADIEU.

Whence comes this keen, this cutting smart?
Why doth the tear unbidden start?
Why beats my sad, my sinking heart
Thus heavily?
Eliza,—'tis because I part—
My life—from thee.

Tost on the rude and foaming wave,
O'er which the howling tempests rave,
In distant climes I go to brave
The furious sea:
My doom, perhaps, a watery grave,
Far, far from thee.

Yet not the angry ocean's roar,
Nor rocks that skirt the fatal shore,
All stain'd with shipwreck'd seamen's gore,
Could make me fear;
No, 'tis thy loss! I now deplore,
With briny tear.

Oh say, thou all on earth I prize!
Wilt thou my absence mourn with sighs;
And Heaven invoke, with uplift eyes,
To speed my way?
Wilt thou?—But see the signal flies!
I must not stay.

By storms that sweep the deep abyss—
By plighted vows—by all our bliss—
By this embrace—and this—and this—
Dear maid, be true:
Remember love's last parting kiss!
Adieu! Adieu!

TO BLOSSOMS.

By Robert Heyrick.

Fair pledges of a fruitful tree,
Why do you fall so fast?
Your date is not so past;
But you may stay yet here a while,
To blush and gently smile;
And go at last.

What were ye born to be
An hour or half's delight;
And so to bid good night?
'Twas pity nature brought ye forth,
Merely to show your worth,
And lose you quite.

But you are lovely leaves, where we
May read how soon things have
Their end, though ne'er so brave;
And after they have shown their pride,
Like you awhile, they glide
Into the grave.

STANZAS TO MELANCHOLY.

Lov'st thou best the rural shade?
Wilt thou to the woodland glade,
O Melancholy, hie?
No—from cowslip's nectar'd cell,
Gayly winds the busy bee,
Through the still sequester'd dell,
From every hedge and every tree,
The woodfolk warble merrily.
Go, rather on the sacred sod,
By all but pilgrim feet untrod,
Pursue thy lonely way:
There oft, sad spirit art thou found,
When swells the curfew's muffl'd sound,
And pale's the evening ray.

But, ah! the flow'ry turf beneath,
No suffering wretches sigh,
The grave may bear its vernal wreath,
And many a bird that passes by,
Shall warble there right merrily.

No native of the woods art thou,
Nor on the mountain's misty brow,
Thy raven locks are seen;
The cottage owns thee not its guest,
Not long thy pensive step may rest,
Beside the hamlet green.

In these proud walls thou dost abide,
With *him* who all unlov'd unknown,
'Mid crowds descries nor friend, nor guide,
Sighs all unheard, and mourns alone.
With *him* the *homeless man* sojourn,
O'er him thy sable vestment throw,
And let him ever inly know,
That he was made to mourn.

Him, Melancholy! shalt thou claim,
No son of fortune or of fame,
To kindred lost, of friends forgot----
A wretch! whom nature blesseth not,
To him, O Melancholy, hie,
To thee he shall his spirit breathe,
To thee, at length, in death bequeath,
His unpartaken sigh.

ON VISITING A SCENE IN ARGYLESHIRE.

By the Author of the Pleasures of Hope.

At the silence of twilight's contemplative hour,
I have mov'd in a sorrowful mood
On the wind-shaken weeds that embosom the bow'r,
Where the home of my forefathers stood.
All ruin'd and wild is their roofless abode,
And lonely the dark raven's sheltering tree,
And travell'd by few is the grass-cover'd road,
Where the hunter of deer, and the warrior trod,
To his hills that encircle the sea.

Yet wandering, I found, on my ruinous walk,
By the dial-stone aged and green,
One rose of the wilderness left on its stalk,
To mark where a garden had been:
Like a brotherless hermit, the last of its race,
All wild in the silence of nature, it drew
From each wandering sunbeam a lonely embrace;
For the night-weed and thorn overshadow'd the place
Where the flower of my forefathers grew.

Sweet bud of the wilderness! emblem of all
That survives in this desolate heart!
The fabric of bliss to its centre may fall;
But Patience shall never depart----
Tho' the wilds of enchantment, all vernal and bright
In the days of delusion by fancy combin'd
With the vanishing phantoms of love and delight,
Abandon my soul like a dream of the night,
And leaves but a desart behind.

Be hush'd, my dark spirit! for Wisdom condemns,
When the faint and the feeble deplore;
Be strong as the rock of the ocean that stems
A thousand wild waves on the shore----
Thro' the perils of Chance, and the scowl of Disdain,
May thy front be unaltered, thy courage elate;
Ah, even the name I have worship'd in vain,
Shall awake not the sigh of remembrance again!
To BEAR, is to conquer our fate!

THE TEAR.

On beds of snow the moon-beam slept,
And chilly was the midnight gloom,
When by the damp grave Ellen wept;
Sweet maid! it was her Lindor's tomb.

A warm tear gush'd, the wint'ry air
Congeal'd it as it flow'd away.
All night it lay an ice-drop there;
At morn it glitter'd in the ray.

An Angel, wand'ring from his sphere,
Who saw this bright, this frozen gem,
To dew-ey'd Pity brought the tear,
And hung it on her diadem!

WHAT ART THOU DEATH?

By R. Cumberland, Esq.

What art thou, Death, that we should fear,
The shadow of a shade?
What's in thy name that meets the ear,
Of which to be afraid?
Thou art not care, thou art not pain,
But thou art rest and peace:
'Tis thou can'st make our terror vain,
And bid our torments cease.

Thy hand can draw the rankling thorn
From out the wounded breast;
Thy curtain screens the wretch forlorn,
Thy pallet brings him rest:
Misfortune's sting; affliction's throes;
Detraction's pois'nous breath;
The world itself and all its woes,
Are swallow'd up in Death.

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During the Month of MAY, 1805.

DIVINITY.

A LETTER from Fidelis to a Friend; exhibiting some leading traits of the character and conduct of modern liberal frolicking Ministers. pp. 47. 9d. Essex.

A Discourse delivered at the opening of the Presbyterian church, in the north liberties of Philadelphia, April 7, 1805. By Ashbel Green, senior minister of that church. Twenty-five cents. Bradfords, Philadelphia.

Arguments, natural, moral, and religious, for the immortality of the soul. Thomas and Andrews, Boston.

EDUCATION.

The Philadelphia School Dictionary of the English language; compiled from the most approved modern English dictionaries. By Benjamin Johnston. Johnson, Philadelphia.

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The Trial of Samuel Chase, an associate Justice of the supreme court of the United States, by the House of Representatives, for high crimes, misdemeanours, &c. Taken in short hand, by J. H. Smith, and T. Lloyd. Vol. 1. J. H. Smith, Washington.

MEDICINE.

An Enquiry into the effects of ardent Spirits. A new edition, greatly enlarged. By Benjamin Rush, M.D. Philadelphia. pp. 50. Dobson.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

Hamiltoniad, canto the third and last. pp. in the whole 104. Barton.

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A new Universal Gazetteer, with maps. Johnsons, Philadelphia.

Brown of Hadington's Dictionary of the Bible. 2 vols. 8vo. Cramer, Pittsburgh.

Bigland's Letters on the Study and Use of Ancient and Modern History. Woodward, Philadelphia.

Gaston's Scripture account of the Faith and Practice of Christians. Hogan, Philadelphia.

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As the List of Books, given in the LITERARY MAGAZINE, *is the MOST COMPLETE OF ANY PUBLISHED, and that of Prints, Maps, Charts, and Music, the ONLY ONE OF THE KIND printed in any Periodical Publication, the Editor requests that Authors, Publishers, and Artists, will continue to transmit the Titles of their Works, post-paid; and respectfully informs them, that they shall always meet with a ready insertion, and WITHOUT any EXPENCE.*

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Nobody coming to Woo, arranged as a Glee, by Mr. Thos. Welsch, 1s.

To Arms, your Country's Cause requiring, a favourite Song, as now singing by Mr. Braham, with unbounded applause, at the Oratorios, Theatre Royal Covent Garden, 1s. 6d.

The Date of the Year, a new Song, composed and sung by Mrs. Bland, of the Theatre Royal Drury-lane, 1s.

Then is there Mirth in Heaven, a Song, sung by Mrs. Bland, of the Theatre Royal Drury-lane, 1s.

BY KELLY.

When those beauteous eyes command me, a Duet, sung by Mr. Braham and Signora Storace, in the Siege of Belgrade, composed by Winter, 2s. 6d.

Brown Bess, or, The Soldier's Farewell, written by Jas. Boaden, esq. composed by Mr. Kelly, 1s. 6d.

The Purse, a Ballad, by ditto, 1s. 6d.

Three Quintets, for two Violins, two Tenors, and Violoncello, composed by Fiorello, 10s. 6d.

Air with Variations, for the Violin, and Accompaniments, by P. Rode, 2s.

Air, with Variations, for the Piano Forte, with Accompaniments, for a Violin and Violoncello, by Beethoven, 3s. 6d.

Thema, with Variations, for the Harp and Piano Forte, by Boieldieu, 4s.

Twelve French Country Dances, for 1806, 3s.

BY HAMILTON.

The Downward Look, sung by Miss Duncan, in A Prior Claim, 1s. 6d.

Merrily beat the echoing Ground, sung by Miss De Camp, in ditto, 1s. 6d. both composed by S. Arnold, esq.

The celebrated Dance in ditto, arranged as a Rondo, 1s. 6d.

The Donkey, a celebrated Comic Song, sung by Johannot in The Diving Bell, composed by Sanderson, 1s.

The Irish Harper, a favourite Ballad, Poetry by T. Campbell, esq. Music by John Geldon, 1s.

The British Volunteer, sung by Dignum, composed by John Birch, 1s.

Tom Tackle's Toast, sung by Dignum, composed by ditto, 1s.

The Death of Nelson; or, One Victory more, a grand Heroic Song, written and composed by Mr. Orme, 1s. 6d.

The Lord's Prayer, an Anthem, for Three Voices, composed by Gildon, 1s. 6d.

Linley's Organ Book, an improved Edition, being the Ninth, 10s. 6d.

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES AND IMPROVEMENTS.

The Editors solicit the assistance of their Correspondents towards rendering this article not only a complete, but a useful department of the LITERARY MAGAZINE. *Authenticated accounts of Improvements in the face or circumstances of every district of the United Kingdom, will be thankfully received and duly noticed.*

DEVONSHIRE.

THE forest of Dartmoor, under the direction of Col. Tyrrwhitt, by the orders of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, is rapidly improving, several thousand acres being already grubbed up for the purpose of planting. So that it is hoped, where bleakness and barrenness heretofore denied shelter to the bewildered traveller, cultivation and her attendant conveniencies will erect her standard. His Royal Highness has long had the business in contemplation, and is now carrying it into execution with spirit.

DURHAM.

A petition is intended to be presented to Parliament during the present session, for leave to bring in a Bill for improving the navigation of such part of the river Tees as is situate between Stockton, in the county of Durham, and the sea; by making a cut through the neck of land on the south side of Holme-House, in the parish of Stockton-upon-Tees, which part of the said river passes through the several parishes and townships of Stockton, Billingham, Coopon-Bewley, Greatham, Seaton-Carew, and Stranton, in the county of Durham; and Thornaby, Stainsby, Stainton, Acklam, Linthorp, Middlesbrough, Ormesby, Normanby, Eston, Wilton, Lazonby, Lakenby, Kirkleatham, East Coatham, and West Coatham, in the county of York.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Cashiobury Park, Hertfordshire, the seat of the noble house of Essex, which has been six years rebuilding, and is said to have cost 80,000l. is now finished, and has, this Christmas, displayed all the splendid hospitalities of the Earl and Countess of Essex.

KENT.

A Special Jury met at the Crown inn, Rochester, on the 4th of November, to settle the demands of the various claimants, whose lands, &c. had been appropriated by the Ordnance department, for the use of Government in the erection of the fortifications and barracks, at Chatham and its vicinity; the most considerable demand on the Board of Ordnance was made by the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, who were awarded the sum of 11,000l. a consideration for near ninety acres of ground, much of which contained valuable brick earth. Most of the other claims were arranged privately.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

One of the finest elms ever seen in any country was lately brought to Monmouth, where it remained for inspection for a few days. It required fifteen horses to bring it five miles along a good road, contained 7 tons 12 feet of timber in its squared state, and measured 41 feet long by 4 feet square at the butt, although upwards of 30 feet had been cut off from the top in order to bring it along the road, so that the whole measure of the tree may be computed at nine tons and a half. This remarkable tree was perfectly sound, and in a growing state when cut down; it grew in a field near St. Maughan's church.

NORFOLK.

It is with pleasure we present our readers the following account of an extraordinary case of restoration to life, after thirteen hours of suspended animation. During the violence of the storm, which took place on the eastern coast, in the evening and night of Sunday, Dec. 15, 1805, a transport, with troops on board, was wrecked at Kissingland, a village, four miles from Lowestoff.—A Serjeant of the 28th Regiment, who had been previously indisposed, either from fatigue or intense cold, fell, apparently lifeless, on the deck. His companions considered him dead, and many of them trod upon his body, supposing it a mere corpse. After the crew of the transport was landed, by the aid of some boats which were providentially near the ship, the body of Serjeant Bubb was laid on the shore, till opportunity for removing it should occur. In that state it remained for two hours. It was then placed in a cart, in which situation it was met by

Mr. W. H. Crowfoot of Beccles. After having heard of the distress to which the crew had been exposed, humanity led to an examination of the body. Mr. Crowfoot thought there appeared more warmth round the heart than is attendant on a corpse. He requested the men who were driving the cart to go to the inn. The body was placed in rather an upright posture on a bed, in warm blankets. Every limb was so stiff that the clothes were obliged to be cut off. For some time no pulse could be felt. Warm flannels, and immersing the extremities in warm water, were unremittingly applied for above an hour, when a weak, irregular pulse appeared. The ribs were gently raised and depressed, to give the lungs room to inflate and expel the air. Brandy was rubbed on the chest; and, when signs of life appeared, a little weak brandy and water was forced into the mouth. After upwards of three hours unwearied application, to the surprise of the attendants, and the unspeakable delight of Mr. Crowfoot, restoration became certain. The excellence of the case consists in the simplicity of the means used, and the capability of their general adoption, though no medical aid or restorative apparatus can be obtained.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

His Grace the Duke of Northumberland has raised among his tenantry a corps of 1511 men, consisting of a body of horse artillery, commanded by a Captain, six troops of cavalry, and seventeen companies of infantry; the whole well cloathed and appointed, paid and maintained by himself; government having only found their arms and accoutrements. The captain of artillery and staff receive permanent pay. Such a command, and such a saving to the state, are worthy British noblemen, and a real honour to our country.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

From the Report of the special Committee of the subscribers and friends to the Bristol Infirmary, it appears that the sum of 10,000l. has been raised as a fund, the interest of which is to be appropriated towards the support of the new wing lately added to it. New and increased annual subscriptions to the amount of 484l. have also been obtained; and though it falls short of the sum requisite for the support of the new wing, it is sanguinely expected that the deficiency will be made up, as soon as it becomes known that even an additional ward has been opened. At a meeting held on the 31st of October last, it was farther resolved, that a committee be formed for the purpose of carrying the original plan into execution, by erecting the left wing.

SUSSEX.

In preparing for the foundation of a new church at Lewes, it became necessary to disturb the mouldering bones of the dead, and in prosecution of the business a leaden coffin was disinterred, which, on being opened, exhibited the skeleton of a body that had been buried sixty years, whose leg and thigh bones were covered with myriads of flies, as active and strong on the wing as gnats in summer air. The wings of this insect, which is believed to be a non-descript, are white.—The lead was perfectly sound, and presented no obvious chink for the admission of air. The moisture of the flesh had not as yet left the bones, and the beard was also discernible on the jaw.

WILTSHIRE.

The proprietors of the Wiltshire and Berkshire canal, from Longcot to Wantage, a distance of nine miles and a half, are about commencing its excavation.

YORKSHIRE.

The magistrates of the county of York have it in contemplation to apply to Parliament for an Act to raise a sufficient sum of money, to be levied by estreat, as the county rates are, for the erecting and furnishing a house for the accommodation of the Judges of Assize, suitable to the importance and dignity of their situation, during their residence in the city of York. Also to raise a sum annually in the same manner, to defray the incidental charges of the same; the Judges hitherto being accommodated in lodgings or what has usually been denominated such.

It is in contemplation to apply to Parliament for an Act for making a spacious turnpike-road from Hessle to the town of Hull; an undertaking greatly wanted in that neighbourhood.

A short time ago, a Poland oat, planted in a field belong to Mr. Canham, of Fitling, in Holderness, produced 8 stems, upon which were 1500 oats, all perfect and fit for seed.

OBITUARY.

OCTOBER 5.--At Ghazepore, in the province of Benares, the most noble the Marquis Cornwallis, governor-general of India, general of His Majesty's forces, constable of the Tower of London, Knight of the Garter, &c. His lordship was on his progress to join and to assume the personal command of the army in the field, as well as for the purpose of accomplishing other important objects connected with the interests of the state. Marquis Cornwallis was born the 31st of Dec. 1738, and seems to have been intended from his cradle for the army. He accordingly entered into the service at a very early age, and we find him in 1758 a captain in Colonel Craufurd's light infantry; three years after this he accompanied the Marquis of Granby to the continent as one of his aids-du-camp, and was in the fields of Germany under the most skilful and celebrated generals of the day. In 1761 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel of the 12th regiment of foot, at which time he was in the House of Commons, as representative of the borough of Eye. He succeeded to the peerage on the death of his father, Earl Cornwallis, in the year 1762, who was the fifth peer of his family, and in 1765 was nominated one of the lords of the bed-chamber, and about the same time was honoured with the appointment of aid-du-camp to his present Majesty. During this period his lordship frequently voted against the minister, and sometimes took what is called the popular side of the question; in particular, when the memorable bill for securing the legislative power of Great Britain over the American colonies was introduced into the House of Lords, Earl Cornwallis was one of the five, at the head of whom was the venerable Earl Camden, who refused their consent to that measure. In 1766 he was promoted to the command of the 33d regiment of foot, which he held till his death, so that whatever opposition he thought proper to make to the administration, it no ways impeded his success in obtaining military rank. Two years after this, his lordship married Miss Jemima Julikens Jones, daughter of James Jones, Esq. With this lady, who brought him two children, a son and daughter, he enjoyed every felicity the marriage state is susceptible of, until he was called to embark with his regiment for America. On this occasion Lady Cornwallis, inconsolable at the idea of parting with him, applied to his uncle, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who, at her request, procured the King's leave of absence. But notwithstanding, military duty prevailed over conjugal affection, and a nice sense of honour urged his lordship to proceed with the forces to America. The separation, however, proved too much for the countess, who literally fell a victim to her love, and died of grief. Shortly after his lordship's arrival in America, we find him acting as an able and indefatigable partisan, with the rank of major-general, under Sir W. Howe. His lordship's first enterprize in 1777, was an attempt to surprise an American post, in the neighbourhood where he then lay, in which he in part succeeded, and soon after this he received orders from General Howe to abandon the Jerseys, and in July embarked with the English commander in chief on the expedition to the Chesapeak.

After performing various services during the different campaigns of the American war, his lordship had the misfortune to be under the necessity of surrendering with the troops under his command to the confederated French and American armies on the 17th of October, 1781, at York-Town, into which place Lord Cornwallis had withdrawn his little army, in full confidence of holding out until the arrival of succours which had been promised him. Destitute even of ammunition, his lordship unwilling to expose the remains of his gallant army, consented to capitulate, and the terms were, on the whole, not unfavourable.

After this unfortunate business, Lord Cornwallis returned to England, and during the years 1782 and 1783, in the political contentions of that period, he resigned his place of lieutenant of the Tower of London, to which he had been appointed in 1771, but in the course of a few months after he again accepted it. The peace which followed, prevented his talents from being actively exerted, but the affairs of India no sooner began to wear a critical aspect, than his lordship, who united in his own person, the

esteem and confidence of the King, the ministry and the people, was pitched on to fill the honourable and important situation of governor-general of Bengal; and to add greater honour to the appointment, he received the dignity of the Order of the Garter. No sooner did he arrive in India, than a war broke out between the Company and Tippoo Sultan, son of the celebrated Hyder Ally, who from small beginnings had acquired extensive territories and an immense army. The conduct of hostilities was at first intrusted to the Madras Government, but little or no progress being made, the governor-general left Calcutta, and proceeded to the scene of action, where he arrived on the 12th of Dec. 1790. After various successes his lordship at length obliged the Sultan to accept of such terms as he chose to dictate. Tippoo consented to cede part of his dominions, paid a large sum of money, and undertook to furnish a more considerable portion of treasure within a limited period. Two of the Sultan's sons were delivered as hostages for the due performance of the treaty, and it is only justice to a prince whom we have been accustomed to style a barbarian, to observe that he fulfilled every article of the treaty with scrupulous punctuality. This important war being thus ended, Lord Cornwallis returned to England, and though he nobly refused to be enriched out of the plunder acquired by his gallant army, honours and employments so well earned, awaited him at home. He was created a Marquis in 1792, and admitted to the privy council, and in addition to his other appointments was nominated to the lucrative office of master-general of the Ordnance. Once more returned to the bosom of domestic happiness, Marquis Cornwallis seemed to promise to himself a life of ease and quiet in his native country, but his talents were of that sort as made him of the most eminent service in the distracted state of affairs, that Europe has continued in since the period of the breaking out of the French revolution, that disorganising Hydra, which still goes on devouring nation after nation. Ireland was in the most deplorable situation, and the power of the government shook by the mania of revolutionary fanatics. In this critical period the eyes of the cabinet and the nation were again directed to this nobleman, who was invested with the vice regal powers, amidst the acclamations of both kingdoms. His administration was short, but it was successful. The rebellious were disarmed, the disaffected were prevented from carrying their intentions into effect, and an invading enemy was made captive. His administration was also productive of other merits; by firmness in some measures, by conciliation in others, by a check put to a system of plunder and free quarters, that unhappy divided country was brought back to enjoy the blessings of legitimate government under his lordship.

In the autumn of 1801, the French government discovering their desire of peace with Great Britain, the Marquis Cornwallis was pitched on by the British ministers, as plenipotentiary, who having repaired to Paris, and from thence to Amiens, concluded, after much struggling, a treaty of peace between the two nations.

After a life spent in the most arduous services, being ever ready when his country called, the Marquis again ventured to India, that country appearing to stand in need of the conciliating powers of his lordship. His exertions to join the army proved too much for his strength, and he fell in his journey.

It has thus pleased Divine Providence, in a short period, to take from us three of our greatest men—Lord Nelson, who nobly fell in the arms of victory, and who may be called the greatest hero that ever lived—Mr. Pitt, whose death was assuredly accelerated by the unfortunate events on the continent, and whose loss we have not yet felt, though we seem to be on the verge of feeling it in all its severity.—And the third, Lord Cornwallis, who joined the character of a great military commander, with that of a profound statesman, blessed with the temper of conciliation, which in these times when the feelings of men have been harrowed up with discordant politics, may be ranked as one of the principal virtues. His lordship's titles were Marquis and Earl Cornwallis, Viscount Broome, of Broome, in the county of Suffolk, 30 June, 1753, and Baron Cornwallis of Eye, in the county of Suffolk, 20 April, 1661. He had issue, 1, Mary born 28 July, 1769, and married Nov. 8, 1785, to Mark Singleton, Esq.; 2, Charles,

Viscount Broome, born 22 Oct. 1774, now Marquis Cornwallis.

The Marquis's military promotions were, colonel, 2 Aug. 1764; major-general, 29 Sept. 1775; lieutenant-general, 29 Aug. 1777; general, 12 Oct. 1793; and colonel of the 33d regiment of foot, 21 March, 1766.

In September last, at Purneah, Bengal, aged 21, George Curtis, Esq. second son of Sir William Curtis, Bart. M.P. &c.

Sept. 21.—At Ghazepore, in the East Indies, aged 19, Charles Sainler Eamer, Esq. second son of Sir John Eamer, Knt. and alderman of London.

Jan. 13.—At Londonderry, aged 56, the Rev. Francis O'Gallagher, a member of the order of St. Francis.

16.—At Lisbon, where he went for the recovery of his health, Sir Christopher Hales, Bart. of Mindall, in Lincolnshire, by whose death the title becomes extinct.

23.—At Dinnington, near Sheffield, Robert Athorpe Athorpe, Esq. an active magistrate for the West and East Ridings of the county of York.

26.—At Croome, in Worcestershire, aged 84, the right honourable George William Coventry, Earl of Coventry, Viscount Deerhurst, and recorder of the city of Worcester. His lordship married first the beautiful Maria Gunning, sister to the late Duchess of Hamilton and Argyle, who died in 1760. His second wife was Barbara, daughter of Lord St. John, of Bletso, who died in 1800, leaving two sons, John and Thomas William. His lordship is succeeded by George, Viscount Deerhurst, the son of his first marriage, who some years ago, met with a dreadful accident when hunting, by which he has been deprived of sight, but still retains all his natural cheerfulness and good humour.

30.—At his house in Aldersgate-street, Thomas Skinner, Esq. alderman of the Ward of Queenhithe, 1785, lord mayor 1795, one of the committee of City and Bridge House estates; a vice president of the Royal Humane Society, of the Eastern Dispensary, and of St. Anne's society schools.

At his house in Edinburgh, the hon. David Smith, of Methven, one of the senators of the college of justice.

Aged 81, the right hon. Charles Cocks, Lord Somers, Baron of Evesham, and a Baronet. His lordship was created a peer in 1784: he is succeeded in the title and estates by his eldest son, the hon. John Cocks, now Lord Somers. This noble peer was grand nephew of the great Lord Somers, and was brought up to the bar, the favourite profession of the family, and in the early part of life travelled the Western circuit; but the whole landed property of the Cocks family by decease of the representatives of its other branches, having vested in him, he quitted the bar as a lucrative profession, and was returned to parliament for the family borough of Ryegate, in Surrey. His lordship during the administration of the late Lord North, long held an official situation in the civil department of the ordnance; his merits and parliamentary services were rewarded by his sovereign, first with a baronetage, and afterwards with a peerage. The former had been originally granted to Sir Richard Cocks, of Dumbleton, and representative for it in parliament (a younger branch of the Castleditch family), anno 1666; and upon the decease of Sir Robert Cocks, the fourth in descent, in 1765, the Dumbleton estates leaped to the object of our present investigation as heir general. The title of Baronet was renewed in him, Sept. 19, 1772, and on May 7, 1784, he was further advanced to the Barony of Evesham. His lordship's remains were deposited with those of his ancestors at Eastnor, in Herefordshire. Lord Somers was twice married, first to Elizabeth, sister of the late Lord Eliott, by whom he has left the hon. John Somers Cocks, M.P. for Ryegate, colonel commandant of the Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry, now Lord Somers, and a daughter Harriet. By his second lady (who survives him) Anne, sister of the right hon. R. Pole Carew, and of Admiral Sir Charles Morice Pole, Bart. he has left issue, Philip James, lieutenant-colonel in the army; and Anna Maria, wife of the Rev. Philip Yorke, prebendary of Ely.

Feb. 7.—At Darrington, near Pontefract, Yorkshire, William Sotheron, Esq. member for Pontefract, in two parliaments. He was a major in the army, and lieutenant-colonel of the Pontefract Volunteers: he was taken prisoner by the Americans, with the army under General Burgoyne, in the disgraceful and ill-concerted business at Saratoga in 1777, and marched into the

back settlements of America, where he suffered great hardships.

14.—The Rev. Stephen Eaton, M.A. F.R. and A.S. archdeacon of Middlesex, and rector of St. Anne, Westminster, and vicar of Northesk. Few have lived so universally admired and respected as a clergyman, or so entirely esteemed and beloved as a man.

19.—In Clarges-street, Piccadilly, aged 89, Mrs. Elizabeth Carter. Her understanding and scholastic attainments, if she had been of the other sex, would have qualified her for a distinguished station in the world; and her purity of morals and religious principles would have disposed her to execute its duties with unimpeachable integrity. She had a strong turn towards poetry, but in all her compositions she endeavoured to make poetry subservient to the interests of virtue. Her first poetical effusion that appeared in print, was, we believe, the beautiful Ode to Wisdom, which was introduced by Richardson into his novel of Clarissa without the author's permission, and was the occasion of a little altercation between them. She afterwards presented a volume of poems to the world, all which are characterised by sentiment, tenderness, delicacy, moral energy, philosophic elevation and fervid piety. Mrs. Carter wrote two papers in the Rambler, one on religion and superstition, and the other entitled "The Voyage of Life," which appear so uniform with the style and sentiment of the work in general, that they might be taken for the productions of the author of that admirable book. The performance, however, for which she is most distinguished, is a translation of Epictetus, which has justly placed her upon a rank with the first scholars of the age; her introduction and notes to this work display pure taste, deep erudition, and a philosophic power of reflection, congenial with that of the original author, whom she has with so much elegance and precision introduced into British Literature. Mrs. C. possessed all the softer virtues, as well as the talents and attainments that adorn the human character. She was esteemed by a very large circle of friends, and those of the most amiable and valuable description, among whom is the venerable Bishop of London, at whose house she was always one of the most honoured guests, and whose virtues she held in the highest respect.

Lately.—At Kintbury, in the county of Berks, the Rev. Thomas Fowle, rector of Hampstead Marshall, in the same county, and of Allington in Wiltshire. And on the 12th instant, at the same place, his youngest son, Charles Fowle, of Bath, Esq. barrister at law, and major commandant of the Hungerford Volunteer Infantry.

NAVAL AND MILITARY OFFICERS.

August 20.—In Camp, near Bellany, East Indies, Lieutenant George William Hollingworth, on the Bengal Establishment, second son of John Hollingworth, Esq. of Kensington-square.

Sept. 16.—In command at Rampoonah, East Indies, aged 37, which place he gallantly defended against Holkar, Charles Hutchinson, Esq. captain in the Bengal Artillery.

19.—At Gardepore, in the East Indies, Peter Abercromby, Esq. captain in the 8th Light Dragoons. This active and enterprising officer served with great reputation during the war in India, and for his gallant conduct received the thanks of General Lake in public orders. He had but just recovered from the effects of a severe wound, when he was seized with a fever, which terminated in death. He was the senior captain in the regiment, by whom he was highly and justly esteemed.

23.—At Anar, in the East Indies, Captain George Yates, of the Bengal Military Establishment, and son of Mr. Thomas Yates, of Lansdowne Place.

December 6.—At Gibraltar, of the wounds he received in the battle of Trafalgar, Thomas Norman, Esq. captain in the corps of Royal Marines; an officer universally respected and lamented.

January 25.—At Newport, Isle of Wight, suddenly, aged 21, Benjamin Adney, Esq. of the 65th regiment.

28.—At Limerick, suddenly, Captain Western, of the 63d regiment.

31.—At Hailsham Barracks, —— Hansard, Esq. major of the Royal Glamorgan Militia.

Lately, in the Island of Ceylon, Charles Douglas, lieutenant in the 19th regiment of foot.

Lately.—At Jamaica, Lieutenant Webb Baker, of the 18th Royal Irish, and son of the Rev. Dr. Baker, of Marksbury, near Bath.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

For a Fertile District in the East Riding of the Country of York. [*Feb.* 17.]

The information contained in this article may be depended on as the result of the observations of a practical and intelligent Farmer resident in the District. We therefore solicit the attention of our readers to it, more particularly as we apprehend that the remarks contained therein will, generally speaking, apply to most other flat, clayey, and fertile soils, not bordering too near on the sea.

THE latter part of the last and the beginning of the present month were so wet, as to put a total stop, for a few days, to the operations of the plough, the only one of importance during this season of the year; yet, from the little frost we have hitherto had, our ploughed stubbles are in a more forward state than is generally the case at the same period. The rain has indeed been abundant, but the WHEAT is much less injured than might be expected, wherever the water has been able to run off without remaining long collected together; the which, from the good state of drainage, and the care that is usually taken to keep the water-courses clear, generally takes place speedily. Loamy or sandy clays, which are in their nature retentive of moisture, have been so completely saturated that the water has often remained sufficiently long on them to injure the luxuriant appearance of the plants. From such lands, however, we are certain of reaping the most abundantly, whatever the state of the winter season.

Good samples of WHEAT fetch about 65s. or 66s. per quarter of eight bushels; but the heavy rains have caused such strong currents or freshes in the rivers, as to prevent the small vessels from taking in their cargoes higher up the Ouse and its branches; hence the corn buyers have been rendered inactive, and the trade has suffered a partial stagnation for the present.

OATS (Enfield) 19s. to 22s. per quarter; and 37s. have been given for a small quantity of new BEANS, but they will not fetch so much at present*.

A decrease in the price of FLAX has taken place, to the amount of 1s. in good, and 2s. in indifferent samples, per stone of 14 pounds.

Of POTATOES, the few at present on hand are scarcely saleable, and of course will be given to the young cattle.

RAPE looks well on good and well-tilled lands.

A sudden rise has taken place in the price of FAT SHEEP; insomuch that Mutton has risen from 6d. to 8d. per pound.

Other things so nearly in *statu quo*, as to afford little room for remark. S.

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* We should feel obliged to our Reporter, if he would, on future occasions, acquaint us with the real produce of corn in general; he offered some conjectures previous to the thrashing out, and our readers may probably wish to know how far they were verified. E.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. *Communications are received from* Dr. REECE, W. S. J JAMESON, M.D. QUIZ. A.Ω. ÆY. CAERLEOL. W.W. *and others of our literary friends.*

Communications for the LITERARY MAGAZINE, *or* MONTHLY EPITOME OF BRITISH LITERATURE, *are requested to be addressed to the Editor, care of Mr. Walker, No.* 44, *Paternoster Row, or to Mr. Clarke, No* 38, *New Bond-street, before the* 16*th of each Month, if intended for Insertion in the ensuing Number. Literary Notices, Lists of Books, Importations, Music, Prints, Maps, and Charts, Notices of Deaths, Biographical Memoirs, &c. cannot be inserted in the succeeding Number unless they come to hand previously to the* 21*st of each month. The proprietors of this Work, being anxious to render it as complete a repository for literary information as possible, solicit the Communications of their Correspondents concerning the Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, and Improvements carrying forward in the various parts of the United Kingdoms; and, generally speaking, any information connected with improving the comforts and conveniencies of man, will be preferred to others of a more general nature, though they do not wish rigidly to confine themselves to the admission of any given subjects.*

GUIDO.

T. Hall Sc.

DAVID HOLDING THE HEAD OF GOLIATH.

London Pub.d April 1.1806. by J. Sarr & J. Savage.